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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Do you think DPS officers escorting AG Edward T. Buckingham and his wife to the airport was proper?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

NATION

There's no trial to prepare, no jury to persuade, no judge to hand down a sentence. Wade Michael Page is dead, having shot himself in the head after killing six people at a Sikh temple outside Milwaukee.
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WORLD

Syria launched a ground assault Wednesday on rebel-held areas of the besieged city of Aleppo, the center of battles between government forces and opposition fighters for more than two weeks.
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LIFE & STYLE

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House to Fitial: Ask for Buckingham's RESIGNATION

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) signs as one of the co-sponsors of Rep. Ralph Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) pre-filed House resolution requesting Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to ask for Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham's immediate and permanent resignation, while House journal clerk Venetia Sanchez looks on, yesterday afternoon. House Resolution 17-106 was pref-filed two days after Senate President Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) asked the governor to suspend Buckingham without pay for the duration of the criminal charges filed against him, and to investigate the role of police and ports police officers when they escorted the AG to the airport to leave the CNMI on Saturday.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

House members are formally requesting Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to ask for the "immediate and permanent" resignation of Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham, whom they described as a "criminal defendant who failed to appear in court despite being duly served with a penal summons" and who has "lost the confidence" of the House and the CNMI people.

Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), chair of the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee, pre-filed yesterday House Resolution 17-106 to ask the governor to call for Buckingham's resignation.

The resolution, as of yesterday afternoon, has eight co-sponsors crossing

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Fitial admin says commenting at this time is 'not appropriate'

Fitial

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is now looking into the concerns raised by Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) in a letter asking the governor to suspend Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham without pay, but the administration said commenting publicly at this time is "not appropriate."

"Governor Fitial has received the Senate president's

See FITIAL on Page 4

Wiseman orders acting DPS commissioner Ogumoro to arrest Buckingham

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Wiseman

In issuing a bench warrant, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman directed Department of Public Safety acting commissioner Aniceto Ogumoro to arrest attorney general Edward Taylor Buckingham for his failure to appear at the hearing on Monday.

As of yesterday, Office of Public Auditor counsel George Hasselback said they are still looking for options on how to serve the bench warrant to Buckingham, who is reportedly now in the U.S. mainland.

In the bench warrant issued he signed on Tuesday, Wiseman ordered the DPS commissioner or any law enforcement officer to bring Buckingham before the Superior Court without any unnecessary delay.

"Any bail collected shall be remitted to the Clerk of Court with a copy of this warrant, or upon verification of the bail information by the Clerk of Court," Wiseman said.

The judge set a $50,000 cash bail for Buckingham.

While Aniceto Ogumoro is the acting DPS commissioner, his brother Ambro-

See WISEMAN on Page 4

Local

Jeju Air to CNMI officials: Rota airport needs work

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Jeju Air Co. Ltd. chief operating officer BooYoung Eum told CNMI officials that Rota International Airport needs some work done to it to meet the airline's requirements to launch direct flight between South Korea and Rota.

» Korean airline eyes twice-a-week service in summer of 2013

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota), chair of the Rota Legislative Delegation, said island officials are grateful that Jeju Air is seriously considering Rota for direct flights. But he recognizes that preparing Rota's airport for this undertaking would entail cooperation among local and federal agencies.

"And if all works out, Jeju Air might start twice-a-week flight next summer," Ayuyu said in an interview.

Jeju Air's Eum, in an Aug. 3 letter to CNMI officials, said they have no doubt "Rota and CNMI destinations fulfill the high satisfaction level of Asian travelers who love to experience the nature as a getaway destination."

"However, as an airline, we believe there are things to be completed before an airline considers inauguration to a new port. For example, facilities such [as] lengths and pavement hardness level of runway, fueling, and part pooling are crucial for airline's operation, but currently, Rota international airport does not satisfy the Jeju Air's requirements," Eum told Ayuyu, Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola, and Rota Municipal Council chair George Hocog.

Eum said the cost of improving the facilities may need substantial funding "but the activity for making the airport more suitable and operation friendly will result [in] more airlines, including Jeju Air, consider Rota as a new destination."

"Again, Rota is a good tropical destination for the people from North Asia. However, the linkage between the two parts of the earth seems to be broken. To recover the linkage, cooperation of airlines, [Commonwealth] Ports Authority, FAA [Federal Aviation Administration], airport and government is needed and Jeju Air will be happy to assist for advising and giving comments," Eum added.

Jeju Air is Korea's third distinguished national airline, following Korean Air and Asiana Air, established by Aekyung Group and Jeju Special Self-Governing Province in January 2005, its website says.

Jeju Air said it currently operates 10 B737-800, some with Winglet. It said each plane has 186 or 189 seats.

The airline, however, said Rota's airport will not be able to accommodate their 189-seater aircraft because of "pavement strength," and operation hours do not match Jeju Air's business plan.

Jeju Air would like to operate at night. It said Rota airport operates between 6am and 8pm.

Based on Jeju Air's route analysis, it could bring in summer flights from Incheon to Rota with 145 or 147 passengers each flight and in the winter, 149 passengers each flight.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) separately said Jeju Air's consideration of Rota, including its analysis of Rota airport capacity and capability, is "exciting news for Rota and the CNMI" at a time when the local economy needs a boost in tourist arrivals.

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PRIOR TO FILING OF BANKRUPTCY

'4 Swift Air executives get large bonuses, other payments'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Four executives of Swift Air LLC, the supposed partner of Saipan Air Inc., received large bonuses and other payments from Swift Air prior to the company's filing of bankruptcy protection, according to attorney Steven P. Pixley.

Pixley, counsel for Saipan Air Inc., disclosed that, on June 27, 2012, the four officials—Donald A. Stukes, Jeffrey Conry, Hank Tobert, and Boris Van Lier, caused Swift Air to file for bankruptcy protection before the U.S. Bankruptcy Court District of Arizona.

Pixley said that, on July 11, 2012, Swift Air filed a statement of financial affairs in this bankruptcy proceeding stating that Van Lier received payments in the amount of $800,000 from Swift Air between March 30, 2012 and June 26, 2012.

Lier, a resident of the State of Carolina, was allegedly the chief operating officer of Swift Air, LLC, a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Arizona.

The lawyer exposed the alleged large bonuses in the Saipan Air Inc.'s filing on Wednesday in federal court of its first amended complaint against the four executives.

The amended $50-million racketeering lawsuit still named the four executives as defendants along with 10 unnamed co-defendants for allegedly conspiring to obtain money and other property from Saipan Air Inc.

In the amended complaint, Saipan Air is suing the defendants for fraud, violations of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, and unjust enrichment.

The original complaint has the same claims for relief except that its third claim is a civil conspiracy.

The amended complaint is more specific as to the allegations against each defendant. It also makes minor changes on a few dates.

Saipan Air asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold the defendants liable to pay the company $50 million in punitive damages, plus unspecified amounts in restitution, special damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Pixley said as a result of the defendants' unjust enrichment, Saipan Air has been damaged in an amount in excess of $1.26 million.

Swift Air was not named in the first and amended complaints because of the bankruptcy petitioned it filed, preventing it from being sued.

On April 6, 2012, Saipan Air entered into an Aircraft ACMI Charter Agreement with Swift Air relating to the charter of two Boeing 757-200 aircraft and one Boeing 737-400 aircraft.

The aircraft were to be delivered to Saipan Air on or before July 1, 2012, to transport tourists from China to various locations in Japan and China to and from the CNMI.

On June 24, 2012, Saipan Air received a letter from Lier dated June 21, 2012, stating that "Swift hereby provides notice to Saipan Air that the agreement is hereby terminated and canceled without further notice or effect."

On June 27, 2012, Swift Air filed for bankruptcy petition.

Pixley said Saipan Air incurred substantial damages arising from the acts and omissions of the defendants.

Saipan Air was then compelled to cease all of its business operations on June 29, 2012.

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Tax rebate, refund checks could be released soon

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Tax rebate and refund checks could be released soon, while the Department of Finance also eyes the release of child tax credit checks in time for the opening of public schools next month.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said while he has yet to receive figures, he confirmed that the Department of Finance is done with inputting of the 2011 tax returns and is now in the process of matching/assessing and testing.

» Finance eyes release of child tax credit checks in time for public schools' opening

He also said Finance hopes to send out the first batch of child tax check requests to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service within the next week or so.

After the IRS approves and transfers funds, Finance will be able to cut the checks and release immediately.

"It is the administration's hope that these much needed funds will arrive around the same time that public schools start the school year. However, this largely depends on when the IRS approves the transfer of funds," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The federal child tax credit is available to taxpayers who have a child under the age of 17. It is worth up to $1,000 per "qualifying" child.

In general, a "qualifying" child is any individual for whom the taxpayer can claim a dependency exemption and who is the taxpayer's son or daughter, stepson or stepdaughter, brother or sister, or eligible foster child.

A refund is for tax that has been overpaid or incorrectly paid, and is returned to the taxpayer. It is different from the rebate, which is for tax properly paid and is subsequently returned to the taxpayer under a rebate provision.

Last year, the first batch of rebate and refund checks didn't come out until October, much later than in previous years when these checks were released in July or earlier.

Bill giving public lands for future Tinian Veterans Cemetery heads to governor

The Senate passed on Wednesday a bill reserving 2 hectares of public land on Tinian for the future site of a Tinian Veterans Cemetery, eight months after the House passed the measure.

Rep. Trenton Conner's (R-Tinian) House Bill 17-196 or the Tinian Veterans Cemetery Designation Act of 2011 passed the Senate by a vote of 7-0.

The bill now heads to the governor for action.

HB 17-196 says families from Tinian who have loved ones buried in Marpi on Saipan are unable to afford the exorbitant airline fee, car rental, food, and other expenses when traveling to Saipan to visit their deceased loved ones.

"The financial and emotional burden that is placed on each member of the bereaved family is too burdensome during their time of loss coupled with the current financial difficulty many of our people face today because of our ailing economy," it says. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

FITIAL

From Page 1

letter and is looking into the concerns raised therein. As to public comment, because the matters being raised or either subjects of an ongoing investigation or may be subjects of a future investigation, the governor finds that commenting at this time is not appropriate," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Manglona said yesterday he hopes there will be action taken by the governor.

The Senate president also asked the governor to investigate the actions of Department of Public Safety and Commonwealth Ports Authority officers for alleged misuse of government resources to prevent the serving of penal summons to the AG.

The officers involved included DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro, the governor's personal security/driver Police Capt. Jermaine W. Nekaifes, and CPA Ports Police Chief Jordan Kosam.

"I'm asking what happened at the airport. As you know, I also asked the Senate Committee on EAGI [Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations] to get to the bottom of what happened—was there abuse of power and misuse of public resources? I am confident that the committee will do a good job," he said, referring to the committee chaired by Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian).

Fitial, in a chance interview with reporters on Monday, declined to comment on issues related to Buckingham, his departure from Saipan despite being served penal summons to appear in court two days later, and the escort service provided by armed DPS and CPA officers to Buckingham."

Demapan also said "there has been no indications to such," when asked whether the government is paying for the $50,000 cash bail imposed on Buckingham.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman issued a bench warrant for Buckingham's arrest for not appearing in court despite penal summons served on him by an FBI special agent. Wiseman determined that the AG flagrantly disregarded the court's lawful penal summons.

WISEMAN

From Page 1

sio Ogumoro is the DPS deputy commissioner. It was Ambrosio Ogumoro who led a group of uniformed police officers that "escorted" Buckingham at the airport on Saturday.

An FBI special agent served Buckingham with the penal summons at the airport shortly after he and his wife left Saipan at 6am Delta flight to Narita, Japan on Saturday.

In a minute order issued on Tuesday, Wiseman said a bench warrant for the arrest of a defendant charged with several misdemeanors, who does not appear as ordered by the court, would not ordinarily result in a substantial amount of bail in a misdemeanor warrant.

"This case, however, is quite different and justifies an exception in view of the court order being treated with an air of indifference by an attorney who is also the chief legal officer of the CNMI, and the fact that the defendant has actually moved out of the CNMI. The court therefore for a good cause finds that a bench warrant in the sum of $50,000 shall issue," Wiseman said.

The Office of Public Auditor filed seven criminal misdemeanor charges against Buckingham.

The five charges were in connection with Buckingham's alleged hosting of a delegate candidate's party at Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's house in August 2010 and Buckingham's approval of a $400,000 sole-source ARRA management contract award in October 2010 to Michael Ada within days of the latter stepping down as a Cabinet secretary.

The two charges—obstructing justice: interference with service of process, and misconduct in public office—were related to Buckingham's alleged use of police officers to escort him at the airport to avoid being served with penal summons between Friday and Saturday.

RESIGNATION

From Page 1

party lines.

House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), House minority leader Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) have so far co-sponsored the resolution, to be introduced in the next session.

The administration, however, said yesterday it has yet to receive or see a copy of the resolution.

The House JGO chairman said "excuses can be made about the timing of the charges, and accusations can be made about political agendas, but a penal summons is a binding legal document."

"There are no exceptions for anyone and there was apparently no justification for Mr. Buckingham to ignore it," Demapan said.

Demapan said as JGO Committee chair and from what he has seen and heard, he can only come to one conclusion: "Whether or not he sets foot back on the Commonwealth, he is not respected by reasonable and fair individuals and has tainted the reputation of the Office of the Attorney General because from the viewpoint of the public, it appears that he has lost respect for the law and the courts."

"If Mr. Buckingham has lost the confidence of the people, then regardless of the outcome of the criminal case, he is no longer fit to serve the people as their chief law enforcement officer," Demapan added.

Yumul, also a JGO Committee member, said the governor asked Cabinet members to resign "for much lesser reason or for no reason at all."

"Now that the CNMI attorney general has committed a crime by fleeing the Commonwealth after being served a penal summons, the governor would have more reason to ask for his resignation," Yumul told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said Buckingham doesn't deserve to be called CNMI attorney general of the CNMI since the morning he left, despite a penal summons to appear in court.

"He's still drawing his salary and holding the title of attorney general," Yumul added.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) said last night he's not signing off on the resolution.

Torres earlier said the Legislature should "back off" and let the matter be handled by the courts.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) said he has yet to fully review a copy of Demapan's resolution, but said the resolution "looks like a slap on the wrist" compared to a bench warrant for Buckingham's arrest.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) also has yet to see a copy of the resolution, but he has been vocal in accusing the governor of "knowing everything about the incident."

He was referring to the events surrounding Buckingham's alleged evasion—with the help of police and ports police officers—of a penal summons service on Friday to Saturday.

Buckingham left the CNMI on Saturday morning, minutes after an FBI agent served him a penal summons to appear in court two days later in connection with criminal charges filed against him by the Office of the Public Auditor.

The criminal charges that OPA filed included the attorney general's alleged hosting of a political candidate's party at the governor's house in August 2010 and approval of an almost $400,000 sole-source contract award to a then newly-resigned Cabinet member.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the administration has not received or seen this resolution.

Buckingham was escorted by armed Department of Public Safety and Commonwealth Ports Authority officers, apparently shielding the AG from being served a penal summons.

The House JGO chairman pre-filed the 10-page resolution two days after Senate President Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) asked the governor to suspend Buckingham without pay for the duration of the criminal charges filed against him.

The Senate president also asked the governor to officially investigate the actions of DPS and CPA officers for alleged misuse of government time, vehicles, and other resources to prevent the serving of summons to the AG.

The officers involved included DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro, the governor's personal security/driver Police Capt. Jermaine W. Nekaifes, and CPA Ports Police Chief Jordan Kosam.

Manglona, when asked for comment on the pre-filed House resolution, said he personally supports having the AG terminated but he said there could be more that the Legislature can do to prevent a similar incident from happening again.

He was referring to prevention of obstruction of justice, wherein one government agency doing its job is being prevented by another agency to do its job."

Manglona said whether or not the resolution is jointly filed by the House or Senate, it would still reflect the wishes of most members. He believes such resolution will be supported by a majority of the members of the Senate.

The Senate president also asked the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations chaired by Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) to conduct an independent investigation into what transpired on Friday and Saturday leading to Buckingham's departure from the CNMI and the alleged abuse of power and misuse of public resources.

'Harm to CNMI'

HR 17-106 says although Buckingham as a defendant is presumed innocent in the court of law, "he has clearly, through his actions and omissions, lost the confidence of the House of Representatives and the People of the CNMI."

It also says Buckingham "must be removed from his position as the highest law enforcement officer of the Commonwealth before any more harm may come to the already tainted reputation and integrity of the Office of the Attorney General."

The resolution enumerates the criminal charges that OPA filed against Buckingham.

These include alleged use of public supplies, services, time, and personnel for campaign activities in connection with a campaign activity held at the governor's house.

The resolution also says Buckingham "refused to provide any documents and/or information to… (OPA) when requested to do so or otherwise cooperate with the same, pursuant to an investigation of potential violations of the Government Ethics Code Act of 1992…"

HR 17-106 also includes OPA's added charges against Buckingham, referring to allegations that the AG, between Aug. 3 and Aug. 4, "knowingly and willfully obstructed, resisted, and/or opposed persons duly authorized to serve process issued by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, in serving and/or attempting to serve said process, in violation of 6 CMC 3303…"

The resolution also says the defendant Buckingham sought, suggested and/or accepted an armed escort consisting of members of DPS and CPA operating public-owned vehicles and being paid with public funds.

HR 17-106 says that escort has the "express purpose of taking defendant from his usual place of abode to the Saipan International Airport, through local and federal security checkpoints and ensuring that he boarded his flights away from the Commonwealth being served a copy of the aforementioned penal summons."

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman issued a bench warrant for Buckingham's arrest for not appearing in court despite penal summons served on him.

Wiseman imposed a $50,000 cash bail for Buckingham. He determined that the AG flagrantly disregarded the court's lawful penal summons.

SSHS alumna receives scholarship for theater arts

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A graduate from Saipan Southern High School was named recipient of the A. Amanda Gruchy Fund Theatrical Scholarship Award.

Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero was awarded a $1,200 scholarship which she will use in studying musical theater at Northern Kentucky University. According to the Fund, the award was the first granted by the organization since it began supporting the arts many years ago.

In a statement, the Fund indicated that the recognition is provided to a student who has shown enormous dedication to the theater arts over many years.

"The Fund, after evaluating her application felt Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero was eminently qualified for such recognition and assistance for her many years of work in acting, music and dance through her Thespian Troupe at Saipan Southern High School, in productions with The Friends of the Arts, and in productions and competitions with The Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands," said the Fund, adding that Deleon Guerrero also demonstrated her superior skills at the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska where she both competed in individual events and performed in chapter select showcase productions.

"Her years of work are a testimony to her sincerity in reaching the goal of being a life-long performing artist as well as proof of her dedication to school and community service. This award will forever be based on a future student living up to the standards of work and dedication Ms. Deleon Guerrero has set," added the statement.

The Fund added that it is confident that Deleon Guerrero's work at Northern Kentucky University will be a success based on her history of hard work and study in the CNMI. The CNMI will miss her dedication and performances here, but we will continue to be proud of her work in the future," said the Fund.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Southern High School graduate Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero was given a $1,200 scholarship by the A. Amanda Gruchy Fund Theatrical Scholarship Award.

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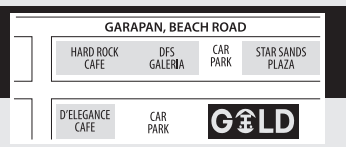

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ON CONTINUING LEGAL DISPUTE OVER MANAGAHA ACCESS

DPL says Camacho made error, but marine sports operators disagree

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands yesterday asserted that Superior Court associate judge Joseph N. Camacho made an error in his order granting preliminary injunction in a lawsuit filed by marine sports operators. But the operators opposed, saying there was no error.

Assistant attorney general Michael Wilt, counsel for DPL, moved the Superior Court to correct Camacho's alleged judicial error in his opinion and order granting preliminary injunction issued on July 19, 2012.

Wilt said Camacho mistakenly construed the Commonwealth's Administrative Procedure Act (APA) so as to conflate the procedural requirements of "rules" with those of "regulation," as the petitioners (marine sports operators) had erroneously advocated in their petition.

Wilt said the judge in his order states: "To be valid, rules and regulations must substantially comply with the notice and comment provisions in 1 CMC§ 9104."

The DPL counsel said in a footnote, the judge explains that §9104 "is entitled 'Procedure for Adoption of Regulations' but applies equally to rules because 'regulation' is defined as a 'rule which prescribes or has the force of law.'"

Wilt pointed out that while the definition of "regulation" under the APA indicates that regulations are rules, it is a mistake to then conclude that all rules are therefore regulations.

"In other words, just because regulations are rules does not mean that rules are regulations. In fact, a closer examination of the APA makes this point clear," Wilt said.

He noted that even though this issue does not directly impact the merits of this case because DPL has not promulgated a rule, but merely restated provisions of rules and regulations which already exist, Camacho's opinion may be interpreted to change the way Commonwealth agencies promulgates rules under the APA so as to require notice and comment.

Attorney Mark A. Scoggins, counsel for the marine sports operators, said DPL's motion is untimely, and that the court can and should summarily deny it without a hearing.

Scoggins said even if the court were to consider whether it had committed error at this stage, it is clear that no such error exists.

Scoggins said the petitioners will not take issue with DPL's statement that "…while all regulations are rules, not all rules are regulations."

"The APA says what it says on this point, and petitioners have always recognized the distinction. DPL's argument, however, does nothing to alter the correct result in this case," he said.

The lawyer said at no point has any party argued that there has not been a substantial impact on the rights of the petitioners in this case.

The "rule" in question, Scoggins added, has the force of law and the procedural requirements must be followed.

"The court has already made a ruling to this effect, and there was no error," he said.

In his July 19 order, Camacho granted the operators' request to maintain the status quo on Managaha access until their lawsuit against DPL is decided on its merits.

Camacho, however, ordered the operators to post the $62,034 bond. He said the preliminary injunction shall take effect once the full bond is remitted to the court.

The five marine sports operators are Island Marine Sports Inc., Aquatic Marine Co. Inc. doing business as Amigo Aquatic Sports, Automarine Inc., Seahorse Inc., and BSEA Inc.

The marine sports operators are suing DPL to invalidate the department's rule promulgated on Dec. 13, 2011 and June 14, 2012 pertaining to Managaha access.

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Former NMI ports fire chief among 2012 DOD awardees

The Commonwealth's former ports fire chief Stanley C. Torres Jr. was hailed this year as the U.S. Department of Defense Best Fire Instructor of the Year awardee during a ceremony last Aug. 3.

Torres, who is now the assistant fire chief for training at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, bested over 600 fire service instructors around the nation. He accepted the national recognition during DOD's Fire Rescue International Conference in Denver Colorado last week.

According to John Thompson, fire chief at Andersen AFB Guam, Torres is a great asset to the organization and is proud of his achievement.

"As the island of Saipan knows, Stan is a great asset to any fire organization he is in and that is no different today. He has made the Andersen AFB FD a much better department," he told *Saipan Tribune* in an email. The fire chief added that Torres' talents have helped the Navy Base Guam fire department, the Guam Fire Department, and the Won Pat International airport FD strengthen their fire training programs.

"We are blessed to have such a talented Pacific Islander doing great things for our department. I am so proud of Stan and his success," he added.

Torres, who is currently in the U.S. mainland, shared yesterday his success with his family and colleagues whom he complemented for their cooperation and hard work.

"I am very honored to receive this award… but I would have never gotten this if it wasn't for all those who in one way or another supported me. I believe in team effort. I accept this award on behalf of first my wife and family who were always there for support in what I do. My fire chief John Thompson and the firefighters at Andersen AFB, all the firefighters from Guam, the CNMI, and the Western Pacific Islands! Chief Martinez Jacobs from Hawaii and most especially the Lord God our father!" he told *Saipan Tribune* in an email yesterday.

Torres

The son of Rep. Stanley M. Torres (Ind-Saipan), Torres served the Commonwealth Ports Authority for 15 years, holding positions in aircraft rescue and fire fighting, aviation, and maritime. He has also served as the agency's acting executive director for less than a year. He quit the position in January 2008.

As chief of CPA's aircraft rescue and firefighting division, Torres was instrumental in the establishment of the Pacific Region ARFF Training Center. The facility has trained and certified numerous fire personnel from all over Micronesia. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

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- Cannot stand when supported
- Does not search for objects that are hidden while he or she watches
- Says no single words ("mama" or "dada")
- Does not learn to use gestures, such as waving or shaking head
- Does not play peek-a-boo by 8 months
- Experiences a dramatic loss of skills he or she once had

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Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early.
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Big Steps for Little Feet

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 10, 2000

$600K earmarked for Saipan infrastructure projects

Over $600,000 were earmarked by the House of Representatives for various infrastructure projects on Saipan under three appropriation bills passed during the second day of its second regular session. The biggest chunk of the funding will go to construction of covered sidewalks in full compliance with federal accessibility standards for Garapan and Oleai Elementary Schools. The plan will cost $300,000 in government funds coming from re-appropriation of remaining balance from earlier capital improvement projects.

Company offers to improve Seaplane Ramp

Pacific Subsea Saipan, Inc., the company that offers submarine tour, has offered to improve the Seaplane Ramp which it is currently leasing from the Commonwealth Ports Authority in exchange for a long-term lease. But the CPA Board deferred any action on the recommendation and instead tossed the proposal to the Seaport Committee for further study. Pacific Subsea's main reason to expand the leased premises is to be able to carry out effective maintenance of the area, which has been neglected with so much trash left over by small boat owners, according to Stephen Nutting, treasurer/secretary of the firm.

Aug. 10, 2001

Redundant patients' rights measure junked

A Senate bill that was intended to safeguard patients from the unnecessary disclosure of their health status has been disapproved by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio for being redundant. In a letter addressed to Senate President Paul A. Manglona and House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, Tenorio said that he decided to veto the measure as it is identical to the recently adopted Rules and Regulations governing the release and maintenance of patient health care information. "I have been informed by the Secretary of Public Health that he had requested the Legislature from passing this bill as it would affect the operations of the department," Tenorio said.

Legislature earmarks $77M for CIPs

More than $77 million in government funds have been set aside by the Legislature for several Capital Improvement Projects, as well as the development of the Chinatown sewerage system in Garapan. The money for these projects will be sourced from CDA Bond proceeds and interest, Covenant Section 702 funding, and unused money appropriated under Public Law 10-41, as outlined by two bills that were recently passed by the Senate. House Bill 12-374, also known as the Capital Improvement Projects Act of 2001, allocates a total of $50.19 million for capital improvement projects that may be identified by each senatorial district. The projects must be consistent with those specified in the revised CNMI 702 CIP Master Plan.

Aug. 10, 2002

Babauta directs transfer of DOF worker

Responding to complaints raised by several lawmakers, Gov. Juan N. Babauta has directed the immediate transfer of James Hemley to a position within the Department of Finance that is not connected to legislative accounts or funds. Hemley is a technical financial analyst at the DOF and is the one in-charge of legislative accounts. He processes and handles all fund matters of the Legislature and each of its members. In a memorandum to Finance Secretary Frankie Villanueva, Babauta said that a careful review of the numerous concerns expressed by members of the Legislature about irregularities in the treatment of various requests to the DOF has convinced him to order Hemley's transfer.

Federal disaster funds out for Rota typhoon recovery

The head of the Federal Emergency Management announced that federal disaster funds have been made available for the Northern Mariana Islands to help local government on the island of Rota recover from the effects of Typhoon Chata'an. FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh said the aid was authorized under a major disaster declaration issued by President Bush, following a review of the agency's analysis of the Commonwealth's request for federal relief. Following the declaration, Allaugh designated the island of Rota eligible for federal funding to pay local governments 75 percent of the approved cost for debris removal, emergency services related to the disaster, and the restoration of public facilities damaged by the storm that occurred over the period of July 4-5. Funds also will be available for the Commonwealth for approved projects that reduce future disaster risks.

KagES kinder to 3rd grade orientation on Aug. 30

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that Kagman Elementary School will be having an orientation for kinder to third grade students on Aug. 30, from 9am to 10am in the school cafeteria. For more information, call 237-3074

Acting chief justice Castro seeks 2nd retention election

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting chief justice Alexandro C. Castro, the founder of the prestigious Attorney General's Cup speech competition, will seek his second retention on the bench this coming Nov. 6 election.

Castro submitted on Wednesday his notice of intent to be on the ballot for retention at the Commission on Election.

» Castro: I wish to continue serving the Commonwealth

"I wish to continue serving the Commonwealth as a justice of the Supreme Court," Castro said in his letter to election commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero.

Castro requested the election commission to include his name on the ballots for the Nov. 6 election for retention in the office of associate justice.

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 of the Commonwealth Constitution, justices of the CNMI Supreme Court have terms of eight years and must be retained at the general election immediately before the end of each term by a majority of the votes casts.

Castro

Castro ascended to the CNMI Supreme Court bench on July 9, 1998. In 2005, voters retained Castro and the late chief justice Miguel Demapan. Castro's eight-year term will expire in July 2014.

Also up for retention this year are Superior Court associate judges David A. Wiseman and Perry B. Inos.

Wiseman had already filed his notice of intent to seek his second retention election. As of yesterday, it was not clear yet whether Inos will be seeking his first retention.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

The Postal Service and the business of mail

Few members of Congress want to take away your Saturday mail delivery or close your underused local post office—or at least, not shortly before election day, when such actions might come back to haunt them. That explains a lot about why Congress has cravenly failed to take the necessary action to put the U.S. Postal Service on a path to solvency, instead forcing it to default last week on a required $5.5-billion payment toward the health benefits of future retirees. The irony is that one of the best and boldest routes Congress could take is also the one that largely absolves it of responsibility: It should let the post office solve more of its own problems.

The Postal Service is bleeding money, losing $25 million a day. To a large extent, it has been a victim of the same technological shifts that have affected books and newspapers. The American public not only sends its business correspondence, personal letters, birthday cards and party invitations via computer, it also pays its bills and balances its checkbooks online. The number of items that went through the Postal Service dropped by more than 20% from 2006 to 2011. But post office managers made their own mistakes, agreeing to an employee contract that for a long time prohibited layoffs and instituting a common pay schedule throughout the nation even though some areas of the country are much cheaper to live in than others.

Congress has set up an untenable situation for the Postal Service. It's a federal institution, but only a quasi-governmental agency. It receives no taxpayer funding, and is expected to pay for its operations through the revenue it generates, yet Congress has refused to allow it to reduce mail delivery by a day per week, raise its prices substantially, introduce new services or close offices that don't pay their own way. In April, Congress finally gave approval for the Postal Service to reduce its workforce of 550,000 employees by about 100,000, as it closes many of its processing centers.

Still, the Postal Service is not permitted to make many of the decisions that a private business would make to bring in revenue and control costs. Congress also requires the Postal Service to fund its future retiree costs decades beforehand.

It doesn't take an economics major to see that this equation doesn't work out.

The federal government must decide whether reliable and timely mail delivery is a necessary public good or a competitive private service. If the former, Congress must assure appropriate funding and management; if the latter, it should stop constraining the Postal Service and allow it to meet the challenges of the Internet era.

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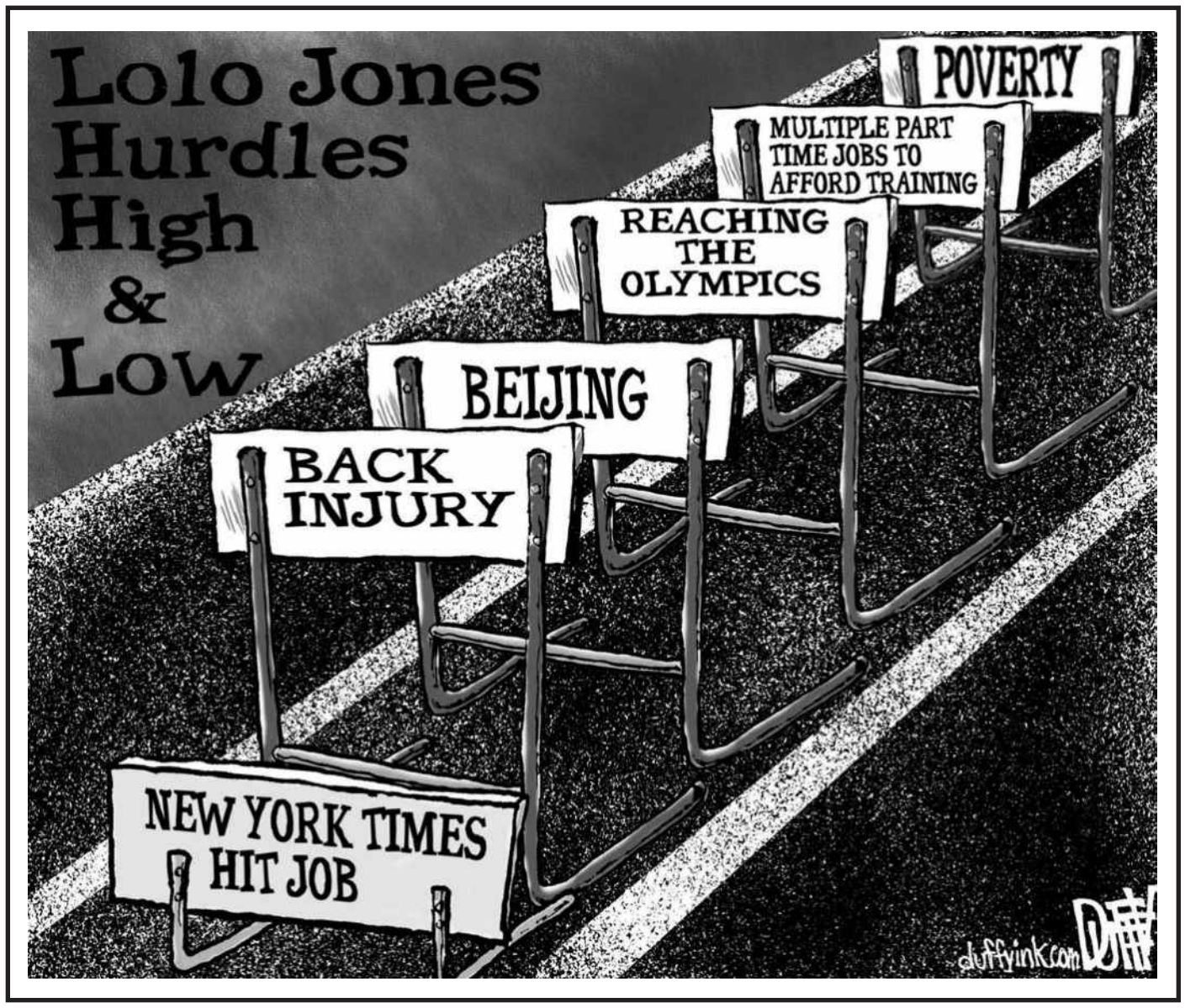

Keep cool, baby

By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

You might suspect that I want to do the Happy-Happy Joy-Joy dance over the successful landing of NASA's Mars "Curiosity" rover earlier this week. The technology spirits, however, have frowned on me. I'm stranded by a problematic car that's running a fever. So forget flying to Mars, I can't even drive to get a hamburger. If I had to name the system most likely to ruin a car, I'd say it's the cooling system. Let's ponder this earthly situation.

If you think gas is expensive, try a blown head gasket or even a toasted engine block. It's a risk factor in any climate. But the tropics are, of course, unusually harsh.

Modern cars, in order to save weight and get better mileage, are built using lightweight materials and intricate electronics. Aluminum, plastic, and transistors have supplanted cast iron, brass, and comparative simplicity.

Although I'm sure alloys are used instead of just the pure metal, I'll note that aluminum has a melting point of 1220 F or so. By contrast, for perspective, iron's melting point is 2797 F or so. I say "or so" because the few sites I checked varied by a few degrees on this note, not that I care, because the overall point is that I'm cautious with aluminum around heat. It is not a forgiving metal.

In fact, it's not a particularly friendly metal. Heat or no heat, aluminum doesn't always play well with others materials and fluids. Unhappy chemical reactions can result from old, degraded coolant, or so I am told. As for radiators, they are often made of plastic and aluminum, as opposed to the solid old brass of yesteryear.

Meanwhile, the fans that blow air over the radiator are often electrical, which is just one more system that can fail. Sure, old cars used fan belt driven fans (hence the name "fan" belt), but newer cars also use belts since that's how the water pump is driven. So, while a belt failure will strand any car, new or old, the additional cooling system vulnerability from electrical issues is largely a more modern thing. So I see more net risk here.

Overall, from my experience, it is a lot harder for a normal slob like me to maintain modern cooling systems. It used to be a 20-minute job to replace a thermostat. Replace a water pump? An hour or so, back in the day. But now? It's largely a job for professionals. There's just too much intricate and delicate stuff packed under the hood, all of it intermingled like a plate of spaghetti having a bad hair day.

Incidentally, modern is a subjective term. But I won't bother to argue it. And, also incidentally, aluminum components have been around a long time, but I'm talking about the general market tends here, not niches, so I won't argue that, either.

Still, here's how I see it: Modern cars have vulnerable cooling systems, and their engines are not forgiving of any resulting problems.

OK, so what's the solution?

One obvious priority is to ensure that a car has enough coolant in it, that the coolant is of the right type, that it has been mixed with the right proportion of water, and that it has been changed at the right intervals. And, of course, the bigger picture is to keep a hairy eyeball on the entire cooling system. This isn't general, no-brainer stuff anymore. Don't let the Village Idiot service your cooling system.

Unfortunately, not even the best maintenance can ensure success. I've had two cars with cooling system problems this year. In each case, little bitty electrical parts failed. There's no way to prevent that.

This leads to our last line of defense: the dashboard temperature gauge. Most of us know what it reads in normal conditions. Well, you can do what you want, but as for me, if the temp gets any higher than normal, I deal with it right away. I'm not one to try to nurse a hot car down the road. I've never played brinksmanship with aluminum.

Some people do, though. I've heard people lament, as their cars are junked, "But it only overheated a little bit." That's like saying, "But I only dropped the vase onto the stone floor a little bit." Hey, look on the bright side: You're getting a new car! And you'll pay for it a "little bit" at a time for 60 months.

But there is hope. One of my relatives has over 400,000 miles on a Honda. Another relative got over 340,000 miles out of his Nissan. Modern engines are machined to wonderfully tight tolerances, so if they are kept cool and are otherwise well-maintained, they can log impressive histories.

Still, for now at least, I can sound like a true curmudgeon. As I wait for my car to get fixed, I can mutter to random strangers, "They can put a man on the moon, and a rover on Mars, but they can't make a car that can get me to McDonald's."

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Five hundred miles

By JAIME R. VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Former PSS teacher Jaime Vergara now teaches at Hang Gong Hang Tian Da Zue, Shenyang Aerospace University and is currently traveling in north Inner Mongolia in the prefecture of Hulunbeier.

"When you hear the train I'm on, you will know that I am gone." Well, we're not really concerned about being known to have gone. I really wanted to take pictures inside the return train ride back to Shenyang but it would have been impolite. It was in the middle of the night, and the aisle was packed like Portuguese sardines. Had I surreptitiously pretended to type on the iPad and took pictures in the process I might have gotten some photos, but I might also have caught the attention of the tech-savvy among the crowd, and be deservingly chastised.

Besides, I think I saw China's hoi polloi live and in color, and might even have glimpsed at an invisible but seething discomfort of those at the bottom of the economic ladder.

OK, once more with the Atlas. We began a 21-hour train ride from Shenyang, Lioning to Manzhouli, Hulunbeier in Inner Mongolia, at the height of the tourist season. Train seats are at a premium. Luckily, the mother of one of my students offered to call someone, and sure enough, we got a third-tier sleeping berth. It was comfortable, though the rickety bones and the sagging muscles had to pull-up all of our 80-some kilograms two yards off the floor to a foot-and-a-half just below the ceiling.

Fast forward to the return. We added a few miles north of Manzhouli by train to Gen He and mostly, by bus thereafter, to get to Mo He. With a final thrust into the North Pole village of China, we returned to Mo He where a train can take us back to Shenyang for 34 hours, if we could get a ticket. Well, this time, we did not have a student's mother with connections.

So, we broke the trip into two, with the first leg to Harbin, a 19-hour train ride from evening to mid-afternoon. We wrote this piece while on this ride. Shorter in terms of riding time, this return, however, is longer in actual time. It entailed an overnight stay in Harbin. But it is a stopover in the city of lights and ice (in the winter), known as the Moscow of the Far East, so we have no complaints.

It is the train ride itself that might tell us of the common folks, and if a revolution is imminent or not, from the reality gap we already noted in previous accounts on China's new universe of citizens' expectations.

When we left Mo He, there were vacant seats so I did not have to sit in my assigned sandwiched place on the three-seater. A deluge appeared at the next stop. It turned out that some of those already seated did not hold reserved seats but had paid for a full ticket, so the seats they were occupying were taken over by the incoming passengers, a common practice. This was repeated three times more, and before I knew it, the whole caboose was packed like a countryside bus in Kenya in the 80s. Too many tickets without reserved seats were sold!

When the conductor asked where I was getting off, I gave my normal "ting bu dong" (I do not understand) and a HK guy immediately butted in to translate what the conductor was asking. He turned out to be from the New Territories in the Sai Kung district where we spent some time in a village called Nam Wai. I found my translator for the trip.

Into two hours after midnight, and the mixture in the riding public of the well-attired LV set talking into iPhones and hobo looking stragglers lugging plastic grain bags for their belongings, are sharing every inch of the train space. Now I understand why some passengers brought their own folding stools. I had not seen more people sleep while leaning against the wall, seating upright on Spartan seats, or propped up over their luggage on the floor.

It took me federal effort to get to the WC. The train is so fully occupied that one guy actually locked himself inside the WC so that he could have enough space for himself!

It is a sign of the resiliency of the common folks that they seem to be taking the situation lightly. In fact, a passenger who is evidently short of marbles upstairs, kept walking up and down three of the caboose aisles, either talking out loud, or singing to entertain. The packed crowd was amused.

It would be a mistake to read the situation as a case of a docile people. It is rather a case of a mode of social behavior that takes crowding as a given, nay, even a desired reality, for struggle loves company, and critically melding into a whole is where the social life force is situated.

Take the price bargaining in the public market, for instance. It would be much easier to just mark out the price and leave the haggling to the elders to acknowledge an ingrained habit. In fact, the adrenalin flow is in the process of haggling itself where the seller feels he got his due, and the buyer is satisfied with the discount she received.

"Talk does not cook the rice," is a Chinese saying. The crowd was not cooking rice tonight but the banter was lively and spirited. It's the folks' way of whiling the time away on a long haul to a destination.

Call this communal virtue socialism with a Chinese face.

Reared in the ways of democratic rugged individualism, with an accent on rights rather than response-ability, a situation like tonight would not play well in Peoria. To the Clinton and Panetta, I am sorry to say that I do not see an imminent revolution in sight!

"When you see the train I'm on, you will know . . ."

Ignoring crushing issues

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Like the weather, everybody's complaining about it but no one does anything to ease the heavy downpour or salvage the torching of vegetation from the scorching heat of summer.

Could we consistently live in a dystopia—meaning, where nothing works—where the simple folks get the perfect screw at day's end, daily?

It's mind-boggling the attitude to ignore taking a look at the forest over the trees, so to speak. Today, new ad hoc proposals have been placed on the table to salvage the fund while ignoring all else. But they fall way short in terms of resolving the long-term solvency and fiscal trauma that now paralyzes operations of the central government.

Arguably, they are doing something about it. But is it the answer or is it just another pending victim of unintended consequences headed for red ink or bankruptcy shortly? While we discuss these issues, I might note that it isn't surprising what politicians tell us wrongly convinced it's the right thing to do. Hardly do we see them use principle-based reasoning as they spout off exhausted redundancy gift wrapped in convenience.

Sure, you can argue while cringing that the proposed loan on pension obligation bond won't saddle posterity with debts. But at day's end it becomes a CNMI debt, doesn't it? So where's the truth in the superficial rationalization that it isn't? Why the perversion of clarity and the truth on an already messy issue that includes the government's open defiance of a court order to pay up its share?

Now, suppose the NMI succeeds in procuring pension obligation bond to the tune of about $300 million. Let's assume too that the current debt is paid off. Is the NMI free from a new pile of humongous debt? Or is it not simply a replacement of an old debt with a new $300-million debt service taxpayers must pay at about $30 million per year? Does that leave much for other obligations or public services?

Furthermore, when it eventually slides into a government debt, it also includes contribution from taxpayers who have nothing to do with the insolvency of the Fund. In other words, where's the justice of forcing taxpayers in private industries to pay up so retirees could get paid? Are they beneficiaries of the loot? Would the Division of Revenue and Taxation ably delineate private sector employees to absolve them of a forced contribution? It's taxation without representation in its ugliest form.

CRA recommendation

In a recent recommendation, the Commonwealth Retirees Association sought the establishment of a commission to dispose of the fate of the Fund with real expertise. I couldn't agree more given in that none of the people on either side of the street is equipped with the wherewithal to do any justice ascertaining the Fund's solvency over the long-term.

The founding of the commission would have allowed it to untangle the work of the ill-fated law (Public Law 3-99 authored by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial as speaker) that included allowing non-payment of employer's contribution by the NMI government, among other egregious excess. The same law provided for a body to decide on pension level pay. This was never implemented such that even overtime pay and those who never contributed to the fund are factored into getting paid unearned pension today.

It also granted a 6 percent Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) since 1984, money the bankrupt Fund can ill afford. This and the non-payment of employer's contribution eventually led to a bankrupted pension program. It goes to show how politicians tell us all the wrong things convinced it's the right thing to do. Retirees should insist upon the author of PL 3-99 if he has any rock solid solution to the mess fostered by his ill-conceived law that lacks foresight. No wonder the NMI owes the Fund some $332 million today!

Now, there's an administration proposal to sell developed public land to cover debts owed the Fund. This is a politically savvy approach to absolve one's messy creation in 1984 so calculated to lure landowners of public land to taking full responsibility of an ill-fated decision that culminated in a $300-million debt.

Would this ascertain the solvency of the fund over the long-term? What if 30 years from now the fund turns financially unsustainable once more? Do we sell more public land solely to cushion the fund? What about other essential services like money for hospital operations, medicaid, medical referral, education, public safety, and scholarship?

These are serious fiscal and economic issues we no longer could bluff with the polished mañana we used to render what eventually became piles of "unintended consequences." We beg of our men of wisdom to pitch-in today with fully thought out answers.

■■■

A new epidemic?

In a soul-searching bit to understand the grand display among politicians sporting Deaf, Mute and Blind syndrome, I've gone to places quizzing the simple folks for their views. I mean it's good to hear differing takes on how governance views its elected officials. I refuse to use the term "leadership" for it would be tantamount to the perversion of diction.

Said a young man in his mid-50s: "I know some of these folks as classmates. It boggles the mind that they graduated from high school after writing down correct answers I've passed on to them. The teacher acquiesced it because they were his pets, but whatever happened to the essence of learning? Perhaps therein lies your answer why the shallowness from our geniuses on the hill". I think it's called social promotion!

The guys sitting around the table chimed in flushing their discontentment. Said one, "Imagine my friend whose job was pulling cable lines now braving a profession on policy-making completely oblivious to the task at hand. So you end up with the worse people in a chamber who have no clue that the discussion of substantive issues entail educated views with clarity and the use of intellectual integrity every inch of the way".

Retorted another in tongue in cheek, "Eh, don't use words like 'intellectual' or 'integrity' or concepts originating from first principles or the concept of the supremacy of laws. Talk about dog tagging, cockfights, panty laws, and bicycles because that is the way these guys connect with mundane issues, di ba? No heavy stuff or you'd lose their interest as they turn blue thinking that the biblical Exodus is a big bird at the zoo in Honolulu."

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph.
▲87° ▼77°

SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲87 ° ▼76°

SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°

MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°

TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°

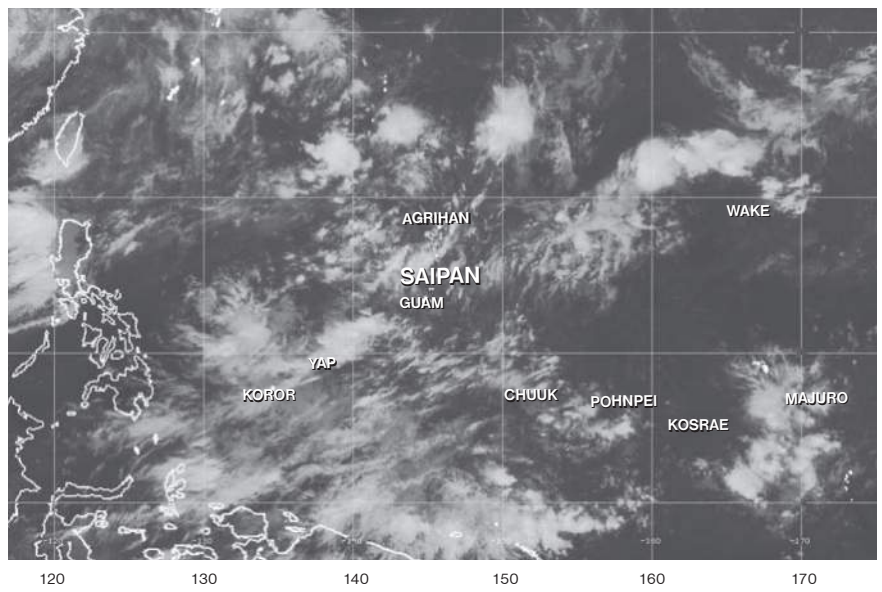
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼75
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼76
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼51
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼69
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼83
Honolulu	Sunny	▲87	▼74
London	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼58
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲91	▼69
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Melbourne	Showers	▲58	▼45
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼79
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼73
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲92	▼78
Paris	Sunny	▲78	▼58
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲88	▼77
Rome	Sunny	▲94	▼72
Salem	Sunny	▲84	▼55
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼56
Seoul	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼74
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼77
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲95	▼76

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends southward from 24N145E to 14N144E then turns east to end at 10N157E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near Guam and just west of the Marianas between 10N and 20N from 138E to 145E. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near IWO to island and north of the far northern CNMI, north of a line from 21N137E to 21N145E to 24N152E. Converging surface winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southwest of Minami Tori Shima and near Wake Island within 120 miles of a line from 17N155E to 21N159E to 23N165E to 21N168E. Converging southwest winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Republic of Palau and Yap state southwest of a line from 15N133E to 7N138E to EQ155E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Kwajalein and over Majuro and Butaritari between the equator and 8N from 167E to 172E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:20 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
8:55 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
3:45 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet
8:27 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:01 AM	6:43 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:43 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:42 PM
Monday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Friday		12:37 AM
Saturday	12:16 AM	1:26 PM
Sunday	1:02 AM	2:16 PM
Monday	1:51 AM	3:05 PM
Tuesday	2:42 AM	3:53 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES
- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:
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- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 14, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30am	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:30am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

0Z606/120	2:20am	8:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/120	2:50am	8:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via SPN

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL286	7:40pm	12:15am +1	2, 4, 6, 7
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

0Z119/606	9:30am	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Kilili: USPS will expand package pick-up hours

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan announced yesterday that postal patrons will be able to pick up their arriving packages during all regular business hours and not only at the special package pick-up times that are currently in effect. The U.S. Postal Service made the decision to increase the pick-up times after quiet discussions with Sablan's office and complaints from the general public.

"I am very grateful to postal officials for this decision," Sablan said. "It's going to be much easier for businesses and individuals to get their packages. They won't have to schedule their trips to the post office around these limited pick-up times.

"The expanded hours for pick-up should also mean shorter lines and less wait-time, when people come for their packages.

"It just makes sense that whenever the Post Office is open it should be providing full service to patrons," the delegate added.

Sablan said the congressional office had received many calls from constituents who were inconvenienced by the limited package pick-up times.

"The post office is one of those places where a lot of people in the Marianas interact with their federal government," Sablan explained. "Issues arise fairly regularly; and so we have developed a good working relationship with the Postal Service to respond to constituents' concerns.

"In this case getting a change in work patterns could cost money; but the Postal Service listened to what we had to say and made the right decision."

The U.S. Postal Service has been under increasing pressure to cut costs. The agency has lost $25 billion since 2007 and is $13 billion in debt, primarily to its Retiree Health Benefits Fund. Both declining revenue in the face of e-mail and other competitors and increasing costs are putting the squeeze on the Postal Service.

One response to the deteriorating fiscal situation has been to close post offices. Since 1971 the number of post offices has declined from 42,287 to 35,119. And in recent years the USPS had proposed closing an additional 4,380 post offices nationwide.

In May, however, the Postal Service changed course and said it would be reducing operating hours in order to keep some rural post offices open. The total number of post offices that will have to be closed remains unclear.

In addition to its main post offices and satellite "branches" and "stations," the USPS also contracts to provide "Community Post Offices." These contract operations have been particularly hard hit in the last forty years, going from 6,434 to 3,610, a 44 percent cut.

The Postal Service has also downsized its workforce and wants to cut Saturday delivery in some locations.

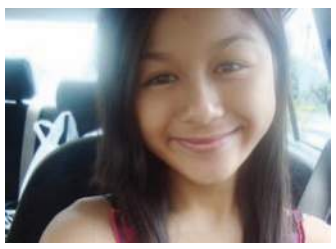
"There are a number of proposals now before Congress to make changes in the Postal Service business model," Sablan said. "But it is critical to maintain services to remote areas, like the Northern Marianas, where there are limited options for postal customers.

"In the meantime, I am appreciative that postal officials have decided to return to full service for package pick-up during all regular business hours." ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday to our second blessing from the Lord, our son Jesner Tasi Rasiang Ramon "JT" whose birthday was yesterday, Aug. 9. May all your wishes come true and we will always love, protect, and cherish you. We thank God for bringing you into our lives and hay He bless you always. Greetings come from your Mom, Dad, big brother Frankie J, and the whole family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Jolina P. Gopez! May your day be filled with lots of blessings, love, and more wonderful birthdays to come. May God bless you today, tomorrow, and always. Love always, Mommy, Daddy, Britney, M.J., and Ariany Kailey

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to Tanya McCarthy! We love you. Greetings from Mommy and Daddy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 2nd birthday to our wonderful baby girl, Lena Blorang Igitol Ngiraked. May your day be filled with joy and fun and may you have many more blessed years to come. Greetings from Mommy, Daddy, Lyandra, Spencer, Leala, Anella, Vince, and the rest of the family.

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Presentation on Chamorro language on Tuesday

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council cordially invites the public to attend a presentation on the Chamorro language that will be held at the American Memorial Park Theater on Tuesday, Aug. 14, from 6pm to 8pm.

In their talk, titled "Community-based Scientific Research on the Chamorro Language," Manuel F. Borja, Sandra Chung, and Matthew Wagers will examine what community members and scientists can accomplish on the Chamorro language by working together.

The trio will reflect on two recent collaborative projects on Chamorro that explore the possibility of an online version of the revised Chamorro dictionary and investigate how Chamorro speakers understand the Chamorro language.

Borja is a member of the community-based organization Inetnon Åmot yan Kutturan Natibu. Chung and Wagers are linguists at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

This presentation, a part of the council's ongoing Community Lecture Series, is free of charge and open to the public.

Please contact council staff at 235-4785 for more information about this upcoming event or visit the council's website at www.nmihumanities.org. ***(PR)***

Garde now GM of G4S Marianas

After more than 16 years leading the largest private security company in the Marianas, Phil Law has been promoted to managing director, G4S Secure Solutions Australia, effective Sept. 1.

Arriving in Guam from the United Kingdom 1995, Law established Securewest International to provide security officers for the Military Sealift Command on board pre-positioning vessels and expanded the company focusing on the hospitality industry.

In 2004, Securewest then transitioned under the ownership of G4S. Law continued expansion by managing the acquisition of Pacific Security Alarm's guard services in 2006; Armored Express in 2008; and Pacific Security Alarm's systems operations in 2009.

Since then, with a vision toward diversity, Law created G4S Business Solutions, G4S Care & Justice Solutions (Marianas), and G4S Facilities Maintenance (Marianas) to provide additional business support services to commercial and government agencies. All G4S Marianas operations, with 800 employees, will continue under the leadership of new general manager Chris Garde.

Since 2004, Garde has served as G4S Security Systems (Philippines) Inc. as general manager of electronic security systems and was promoted to vice president for ESS & IT for G4S Philippines in 2008.

Garde

Law

In 2010, after completing the G4S Global Leadership Training Program in the UK, Garde was assigned to G4S Security Systems (Guam) Inc., as general manager for Systems Marianas, while concurrently holding the position as vice president for ESS & IT, Philippines.

Born in Bacolod City, Philippines, Garde is a graduate of the University of St. La Salle with a Degree in Business Management and has 20 years of executive management expertise in finance and administration, marketing, engineering and project management, business development, and sales and marketing management.

Aside from his credentials, Chris is most proud to be a family man, married to his lovely wife Amelia Cereno with three children, Danielle, Pamela, and Ian.

G4S Marianas is equally excited about both Law's new adventure in Australia and the leadership Garde will bring to the company.

Please join us in congratulating and wishing Law well in his new role in Australia and also welcoming Garde as the new G4S Marianas general manager. You are welcome to send comments to: gm@gu.g4s.com. ***(PR)***

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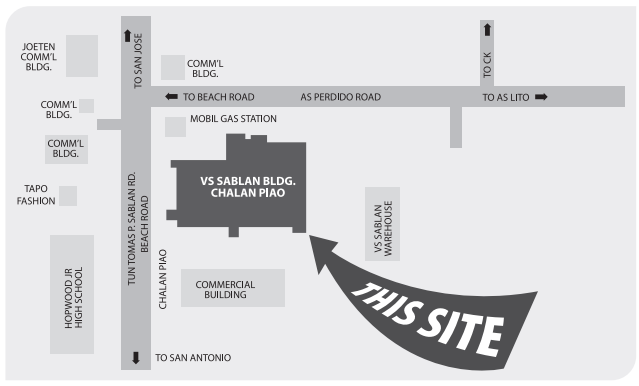

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At our **Chalan Kanoa Building**, we have an Apartment Unit available for rent on the 2nd and 3rd floor. Also available is an office space above Bank of Saipan (2nd floor). Call to see and inquire about monthly rent price. **Very Affordable.**

At **Our Chalan Piao Building, VSS PLAZA** we have rental space available on the **first floor** now at **65 cents per square foot** for units ranging from 700 sq ft to 1400 sq ft. Large 4500 square foot space on the second floor that would be ideal for a GYM or Dance Studio at **35 cents per square foot.**

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3rd Floor Apartment for Rent at our Chalan Piao Location – 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath, Semi-Furnished with Refrigerator & Stove, 1470 sq ft, Save on Power – Great Breeze thru the Apartment. No Need Air Conditioning. **$500 per month plus Utilities**

For Lease – 53,500 Sq Meters Available for Lease in Kanat Tabla.
Ocean View. 31 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking 10.00 per square meter. Negotiable.
– 3,779 Sq Meters Available for Lease at Laulau Bay. 44 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking $25.00 per square meter. Negotiable.

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to our Chalan Piao Business location

Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-9285 Email Address: vicente_sablan@yahoo.com) or Call 234-2585.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Tests Show Coliform Bacteria in Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Saipan Water

Because of the recent *E.coli* contamination and other samples that tested positive for total coliform bacteria in the CUC Saipan water system during July, we have exceeded the allowable limit. Therefore, we are in violation of the drinking water standard. Although this incident is no longer an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. We took 129 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during July 2012. 17.05 percent of our samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than five (5) percent of samples may do so.

What should I do?

- You no longer need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified within 24 hours. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. **Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.**

Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing.** If we had, we would have notified you immediately.

What is being done?

Leaks were detected and repaired in the following areas: As Matuis, Dandan, Gualo Rai, Kagman, Navy Hill, Sadog Tasi, San Vicente, and Tanapag. Water operators also increased disinfection and flushed water lines in the Dandan, Koblerville, and San Antonio areas. Further testing shows that this problem has been resolved.

For more information, please contact CUC Water Division at 322-5030 or PO Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

State Water System ID#: MP0000001. Date distributed: August 8, 2012

CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
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Telephone: (670) 235-7025 through 235-7032 Facsimile: (670) 234-5131

MANGO initiates membership drive for non-profits

The Marianas Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations, Inc. (MANGO) is pleased to invite all non-profit organizations (NGOs) in the NMI to register as members of MANGO, the umbrella organization for all NMI-based NGOs.

Please email your organization's official name, mailing address, official point of contact(s), email addresses, officers' names, and contacts to: mangononprofits@gmail.com.

Further, MANGO, in partnership with the Office of Minority Health Resource Center, is pleased to announce a week-long local capacity building training for only 40 seats during the week of Sept. 10, 2012. One slot is reserved for those NGOs who register by the deadline of Aug. 17, 2012. Please email the name of the NGO and individual to mangononprofits@gmail.com.

MANGO was chartered and licensed by the CNMI Corporate Registrar in December 2010 and is the umbrella entity for all NGOs in the NMI and is an associate member of the regional Pacific Coalition.

The founding members include Maria Cepeda Pangelinan, Polly Omechelang, Maisie Bermudes, Frances Manibusan Sablan, Jesse J. Torres, Al Cabael, Joann Aquino, Lydia D. Igitol, John DLR. Gonzales, Rhea Chong, George Cruz, and Rose Castro. ***(PR)***

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Sun Panda Thai Jasmine Rice 50lbs. $27.99
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Lotus Rice 50lbs. $25.99
Saipan Ice Water 500ml $5.99 CASE
Betty Crocker Pancake Mix 32oz. $2.99
Ichiban $10.99 CASE

Chicken Leg Quarter $19.99 22lbs / $26.99 33lbs
Whole Chicken 30lbs $38.99
Pork Spareribs 20lbs $22.99
Babyribs 10lbs $22.99
Vega Shrimps $5.79 LB.
King Chef Vegetable Oil 5gal $31.99
Mega & Ace Butane Gas $22.99 CASE

GROCERIES

Ox & Palm Corned Beef $2.99 11.5 OZ.	Spam All Kinds $2.39 EA	Black Label Luncheon $1.79 EA.	Libby's Vienna Sausage 59¢ 5 OZ.	Sunflower Tuna $1.45 7 OZ.	Beach Cliff Sardines 99¢	Century Tuna 89¢ 7 OZ.	Waioka Tuna 89¢	Armour Treet Luncheon Loaf $1.69	Hormel Chili with Beans $1.69 15 OZ.	Hormel Chili No Beans $1.79 15 OZ.
Kikkoman Soy Sauce $4.39 1.6 L.	Vlasic Sliced Dill Pickle $6.49 1 GAL.	Dinty Moore Beef Stew $1.69 15 OZ.	Dinty Moore Meatball Stew $1.69 15 OZ.	Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash $1.99 6.5 OZ.	Campbells Chicken Noodle 89¢ 10 OZ.	Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce (all kinds) $1.39 26.5oz.	Del Monte Whole Corn 99¢ 15 OZ.	Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn $5.79 106 OZ.	Del Monte Fiesta Fruit Cocktail $4.99 106 OZ.	Del Monte 100% Pineapple Juice $1.99 1.36 L
Kellogg's Tri-pak 58 oz. $13.99	Kruataia Coconut Milk 99¢	General Mills Tri-pak $8.99	Argo Corn Starch 99¢ 1 LB.	Gold Medal Flour $3.25 37.02 OZ.	Duncan Hines Cake Mix $1.99	DelMonte Ketchup $4.69 2.64 OZ.	Royal Spaghetti Noodle $2.49 1 kg.	Foremost Milk $20.99	White Sugar 2kg $2.79 2 KG.	Pringles (All Kinds) $1.99
Morton Salt 89¢ 450 gm	Country Lime Lemonade $7.99	Tang Orange $7.99 22 QTS.	Kool-Aid $7.99 34 QTS.	Coffee Mate $7.99 50 OZ.	Folgers Coffee $11.99 33.3 OZ.	Maxwell Coffee Mix $7.99 100CT.	Fresco Vegetable Oil $9.49 1 GAL.	Dragon Vegetable Oil $9.49 1 GAL.	Golden State Vinegar $3.99 2 1 GAL.	Wilkins Water $2.99 6000ML

FAMILY BAG

Stew Chicken	$5.99
Chicken Leg Qtr	$4.99
Chicken Nuggets	$11.99
Turkey Tail	$6.99
Mackerel Fish	$5.99
Pork Hock	$6.99
Pork Adobo	$9.99
Pork Bellies	$11.99
Pork Chop	$11.99
Pork Spareribs	$6.99
Pork Butt Steak	$9.99
Beef Ribeye	$15.99
Beef Stew	$12.99
Beef Shank	$11.99
Beef Feet	$7.99
Beef Shortribs	$15.99
Ox Tail	$15.99

BEVERAGE

Capri Sun $2.99 BOX
Kool-Aid Jammers/ Caprisun $2.99 BOX
Sunkist $6.99 CASE
Rota Water 500 ml. $5.50 CASE
Ruby Kist Orange Juice $3.79 64oz.
Ruby Kist Apple Juice $3.99 64oz.
Pepsi Lite Can $11.99 CASE LIMIT
Jinro Soju $29.99 CASE
Hite Can $16.99 CASE

FROZEN

Hashbrown $4.59 20PCS. $2.29 10PCS.
Bar S Jumbo Franks $1.19
Millers Sausage $16.99
Bar S Ham $18.99 10LBS.
Bar S Bacon $3.25
Ground Beef $11.99 5LBS.
Chamorro Sausage $4.49 10LBS.
Ground Pork $22.49 10LBS.
Tilapia $1.09 /LB.
Milk Fish $1.49 /LB.
Green Shell Mussels $5.99 2LBS.
Frozen Cut Crab $6.99
Sea Wave Calanari $1.89 16oz.
S.C. Frozen Shrimp $3.59 16oz.

NON-FOOD

Clorox $3.29 96 OZ.
Purex $4.49 50 OZ.
Gain Liquid $6.49 50 OZ. $10.99 100 OZ.
Gain Powder $15.99 102 Loads $16.99 120 Loads
Joy Ultra $1.49 12.5 OZ. $6.99 90 OZ.
Dawn Dishwashing Soap $8.99 90 oz.
Suave Shampoo & Conditioner 2 for $3.00
Head & Shoulders Shampoo $7.99 23OZ. 2 in 1 w/ Almond oil $4.99
Huggies Big $18.99 BOX
Luvs Big $17.99 BOX
Bounty Paper Towel $19.99 15 Rolls
Charmin Ultra Strong Tissue $6.99 24 Rolls
Charmin Basic Toilet paper $8.29 12ROLLS $14.99 24ROLLS
Foam Plates $3.29 50 CT $7.99 125 CT

PRODUCE

Onion 59¢ LB.
Potato 79¢ LB.
Celo Apple $3.99 /BAG
Orange 99¢ LB.
Cabbage 89¢ LB.
Korean Pear $2.99 LB.
Honeydew/ Cantaloupe 99¢ LB.
Garlic $1.25 5 PCS.
Broccoli $1.49 LB.
U.S. X-Large Eggs $2.25 1 DOZ.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Three Kings Too on Rota burglary

Crime Stoppers is seeking the community's assistance for information on a burglary and theft incident that occurred at the Three Kings Too store on Rota.

On July 20, 2012 at about 6:30am, police responded to a burglary and theft incident at the Three Kings Too Store, located in Sinapalo II. The store was closed at the time when the suspect or suspects entered the store.

The point of entry was through the front window of the store. The window was damaged using a piece of cement block recovered inside the store. A light bulb used to illuminate the window was also broken possibly by the suspect or suspects to hide in the dark while committing the crime.

The items stolen include two cartons of "Kool" cigarettes, two cartoons of "Virginia Slim light" cigarettes, 10 packs of "Doral Slim" cigarettes, and two bottles of "Jose Cuervo" Tequila liquor.

The Department Public Safety and NMI Crime Stoppers are seeking help from the public. Please contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net. Crime Stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(NMI Crime Stoppers)***

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SSHS sets schedule for start of SY 2012-2013

Saipan Southern High School would like to inform their students for SY 2012-2013 about upcoming events:

First day of classes for SY 2012-2013 will be Sept. 4, 2012. Students must be on campus by 8am. Classes start at 8:30am and dismissal is at 3pm.

All new students enrolling at SSHS for school year 2012-2013 must complete and submit a registration form as soon as possible. Registration forms are available in the registrar's office or main office.

All returning students that attended SSHS last year must return all your textbooks and settle all obligations with the school, before you can pick up your class schedule.

Schedules are to be picked up at the counseling office as follows:

- Seniors (12th) grade
Aug. 22, 9am-4pm
- Juniors (11th) grade
Aug. 23, 9am-4pm
- Sophomores (10th) grade
Aug. 24, 9am-4pm

All transferees and new students enrolling at SSHS (SY2012-2013) in grades (10th, 11th and 12th) are required to attend an orientation on Aug. 28, 2012 (Tuesday) from 1pm to 3pm with their parents or legal guardians. No students will be allowed to attend the orientation without parents or legal guardians in attendance.

Incoming freshman (9th) grade student orientation will be held on two different sessions to accommodate parents/guardian work schedules. Please attend only one session on Aug. 28, from 9am to 11am or from 1pm to 3pm with their parents or legal guardians. No students will be allowed to attend the orientation without parents or legal guardians in attendance.

Should you have questions, call SSHS principal Jesse M. Tudela directly at 670-237-3702 or the SSHS main office at 670-664-4000 or 670-237-3710. ***(PR)***

CCA board thanks MMAC supporters

The Commonwealth Cancer Association board of directors president David B. Rosario expressed his gratitude to the many individuals, organizations, families, partners, and sponsors who helped make the 2012 Marianas March Against Cancer fundraiser a grand success.

For over a decade, the MMAC has been CCA's signature annual fundraising event. This year's event marks the 10th year of hard work, commitment, and teamwork of many dedicated volunteers that have made CCA's services and programs successful in our community. The event was held last April 27 and 28 at the Hopwood Junior High School.

The CCA board thanked and recognized the following:

■ MMAC executive committee officers—Catherine Attao-Tovesm overall chairperson; Emmanuel P. Borja, overall vice chairperson; David B. Rosario and Dr. Jack Hardy (senior advisors); LaReina Camacho (team recruitment); Atdao Rosario, Dave Guerrero, accounting; Christopher A. Concepcion (public relations); Diana Benavente, Kim Concepcion-Pritchard, Jenypy Sambile, (luminary); Janine Nogis, Ricky Itibus (T-shirt); Gloriana Monkeya-Teuira (site/logistics) Luis John "L.J." Castro (entertainment); Nora S. Sablan (survivors); Rachel Roque (sponsorship); Tatiana Olopai, Naomi Benjamin (MMAC shop); and Juan L. Babauta (CCA liaison).

■ MMAC 10th Year Recipients—Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Junior High School; Bank of Guam; DFS Saipan Limited; IP & E; IT&E; Joeten Charitable Foundation; *Marianas Variety*; Saipan's Mayor Office; Sorensen Media Saipan; Team Ahu; Team Bodig; Team PIC.

■ Title sponsors—Bank of Guam; Delta Air Lines; DFS Galleria Saipan, Ltd.; IT&E; Joeten Charitable Foundation; KKMP; Take Care/FHP; Sorensen Media Saipan; St. Michael's Medical Response.

■ Major sponsors—Triple J Saipan, Inc.; Docomo Pacific; Hyatt Regency Saipan; Images Saipan, Ltd.; Saipan Mayor's Office; Younis Art Studio; GPPC, Inc. IP&E; Mobil Oil; Saipan Apparel; Island Apparel.

■ Teams and captains—JCT Enterprises/Marianas High School (Frannie T. Demapan/Cherlyn Cabrera); 302nd QM det.1 (Jocelyn Songsong); Bodig (Jocelyn Guerrero/Bridgette Camacho); Ahu (Vivian Taitano); Team Ponape(Manny Pangelinan); Aschoscho(Nadia Saralu); Knights-Mount Carmel School(Billy Ocampo); #FREE DAVE (Robert Travilla); A.L.A.I.-Saipan Community School (Nina Rivera/Mr. Winkfield); IT&E-Saipan Southern High School(Shirley Dotts/Jean Ballesteros/Arisa Sakai); Marriage Encounter(Jaimie/JJ Laniyo); NMPASI Posse(Greg Borja); Pacific Islands Club(Evan Hunsberger); Take Care/FHP-Grace Christian Academy(Sarah Klockowski/Beth Ann Nunez/Diana Sablan); Tan Holdings-Kagman High School(Ed Arriola, Jr./Jay Sanchez); St. Jude Renal Care (Natalie Reyes/Selma Salas).

■ CNMI government Supporters—Gov. Benigno R. Fitial; Delegate Gregorio C. Kilili Sablan.

■ Senate President Paul A. Manglona; Saipan Mayor Donald P. Flores; Tinian Mayor Ray Dela Cruz; Congressman Joe Palacios; Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation; Commonwealth Utilities Corp.; Department of Public Safety, and other government agencies.

■ Numerous other supporters and volunteers—All Cancer survivors; Hopwood Jr. High School staff; WSR Elementary School NJHS; WSR Elementary School Peer Mentoring Program; WSR Elementary School Student Council; Ledge Light Technology, Inc.; Rota Liaison Office; Proa Music Society; Breast & Cervical Cancer Outreach Volunteers; Dr. Jack Hardy-Senior Advisor; Dr. John Joyner; Juan Vicente E. Blanco; Elvira M. Mesgnon; Angel Demapan; Erbert Santiago; John Pialur; Marvin Deleon Guerrero; Maggie Naputi; Pua Hinano; Rodney Camacho; Allen Taitano; Eva Taitano; Jacinto Taman; Jemma Laura; Joanne Ogo; Kelvin Alexander; Keoni Saralu; Sumech San Nicolas; Trevor Ogumoro; Afetnas Regime

"All the services provided by the Commonwealth Cancer Association, such as the direct patients assistance, awareness, education and prevention programs are funded by the annual Marianas March Against Cancer," said board president Rosario said. "The sea of support from our community and generous individuals who contribute their time and resources to MMAC, many of whom have willingly and graciously participated year after year have made our programs successful through out the years. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts." ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Commonwealth Cancer Association officials Juan L. Babauta, Alex Sablan, Maggie Camacho, Dave Rosario, Manny Borja, Catherine Attao-Toves, Dr. Jack Hardy, Margaret Aldan, and Gil Morales pose with the check raised during the 2012 Marianas March Against Cancer held last April at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

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PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF DIVE RESCUE EQUIPMENT PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-004-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following Dive Rescue Equipment:

- 12 ea. ~Gauge Console
- 12 ea. ~ Dive Watch Computer w/transmitter
- 12 ea. ~ MK 25T/S600T (Regulator)
- 12 ea. ~ R295 Octo
- 12 ea. ~ Gauge on a Console Imperial
- 12 ea. ~ Power Inflator
- 12 ea. ~.5mm Wetsuit
- 12 ea. ~ Mouthpiece
- 12 ea. ~ Mask
- 12 ea. ~ Snorkel
- 12 ea. ~ Fins II
- 12 ea. ~ Boots
- 12 ea. ~ Boots Short
- 12 ea. ~ Tank Bangers
- 12 ea. ~ Gloves
- 12 ea. ~ SL4 Underwater Lights
- 12 ea. ~ C4 Underwater Lights
- 12 ea. ~ Compact Torch
- 12 ea. ~ Knife Drop Point
- 12 ea. ~ Accessories for Console
- 12 ea. ~ Reef Hooks
- 12 ea. ~ Hose Holder
- 2 ea. ~ Dive master Slate
- 2 ea. ~ Dive Flad (innovative)
- 2 ea. ~ Ring Kit and Pickers
- 2 ea. ~ Magnetic Slates with Holster
- 5 ea. ~ Safety Throw
- 5 ea. ~ Rescue Throw
- 2 ea. ~ Inner Tube
- 5 ea. ~ Mini Underwater Lights
- 2 ea. ~ Tank Checker
- 1 ea. ~ Tool Kit
- 12 ea. ~ Dry Case
- 12 ea. ~ Signal Tube

The List of the Dive Equipment will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th, 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Dive Rescue Equipment." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

Funding for the procurement of the Dive Rescue Equipment is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

Business

China's inflation falls, giving room for stimulus

BEIJING (AP)—China's inflation rate fell further in July, giving the government more room to stimulate growth amid mixed signals about whether the world's second-largest economy is recovering from a painful slowdown.

Politically sensitive consumer prices rose 1.8 percent, down from the previous month's 2.2 percent and well below last year's highs, data showed Thursday. That was driven by a 2.4 percent rise in food costs.

Lower inflation gives Beijing more room to cut interest rates or take other steps to shore up economic growth that has slowed sharply this year without the risk of igniting a new price spike.

"The numbers confirm that the door for more monetary easing is open," said Credit Agricole economist Dariusz Kowalczyk in a report.

Beijing tightened economic controls in 2010-11 to cool overheating and surging inflation that peaked at 6.5 percent in July 2011. Chinese leaders reversed course late last year and eased some controls after global demand for Chinese goods plunged, causing the economy to slow abruptly.

Growth fell to a three-year low of 7.6 percent in the three months ended June 30. Analysts say the slump probably has bottomed out and a recovery should begin in the second half. But Premier Wen Jiabao warned last month the economy still faces "relatively large" pressure to slow further.

The slowdown has raised the threat of job losses and possible unrest as the ruling Communist Party tries to enforce calm ahead of a once-a-decade handover of power to younger leaders.

Surveys released earlier showed Chinese manufacturing barely grew in July as global and domestic consumer demand weakened. That prompted analysts to say Beijing need to take more steps to revive growth.

The International Monetary Fund cut this year's growth forecast for China in mid-July to a still-robust 8 percent, down from its previous outlook of 8.2 percent. It warned a "hard landing," or abrupt downturn in growth, was still possible.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil hovers above $93 as China inflation eases

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil hovered above $93 a barrel Thursday in Asia as lower inflation in China reinforced expectations for more stimulus measures to boost waning economic growth. Benchmark crude was up 25 cents to $93.60 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 32 cents on Wednesday to settle at $93.35 in New York. In London, Brent crude was up 9 cents at $112.24 on the ICE Futures exchange.

Pilots reject contract with American Airlines

DALLAS (AP)—Pilots for American Airlines have strongly rejected a contract offer that would have helped the company cut labor costs, dashing American's hopes of winning voluntary concessions from all its labor unions. American said that it was disappointed by the vote. The company will ask a federal bankruptcy judge to let it impose terms on pilots that would be harsher than the rejected deal. Mechanics and maintenance-stock clerks ratified new contracts, their union said Wednesday. Flight attendants are voting through Aug. 19.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF POLICE OPERATIONAL GEARS PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-005-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following Police Operational Gears:

- 16 ea. ~ Tactical Helmets
- 16 ea. ~ ASP/Flashlight/OC Pouch
- 16 ea. ~ Yoke Sling
- 16 ea. ~ Small Utility Pouch
- 16 ea. ~ Double Magazine Pouches
- 16 ea. ~ Handcuff Case
- 16 ea. ~ Shotgun Shell Pouch
- 16 ea. ~ Shotgun Double Handgun Pouch
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical PDU Class B Uniform
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical TDU Pants
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical Shorts
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical Polo
- 51 ea. ~ Pelican 7060 Briefs
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical Caps
- 51 ea. ~ Under Amour Tactical Polo
- 51 ea. ~ Under Amour Tactical Mirage
- 51 ea. ~ Under Armour Trail Boot
- 51 ea. ~ Under Armour Breech Boot
- 51 ea. ~ Under Armour Combat Glove
- 51 ea. ~ Belts
- 51 ea. ~ Holster
- 51 ea. ~ Duty Starter
- 51 ea. ~ ASP Rotating Holster

The List for the Procurement and Delivery of Police Operational Gears will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th , 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Police Operational Gears." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals
submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

Funding for the procurement of Police Operational Gear is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
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PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF PERSONAL WATERCRAFTS/TRAILERS/ACCESSORIES PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-006-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following personal watercrafts, trailers and accessories:

- 6 ea. ~ Personal Watercrafts

Specifications

Rider Capacity:	2 persons
Length:	130.7"
Width:	48-49"
Height:	45-46"
Dry Weight:	809-812 lbs.
Fuel Capacity:	16-18 Gallons
Storage Capacity:	30 Gallons

Glove Box
Hydro Turf Mats
Automatic Bilge System/Electronic Bilge
Chrome Accents
Ergolock System/Adjustable Rear Sponsons/Trim Tabs

Engine Specifications

Engine Type:	Supercharged with external intercooler
Pump Type:	155mm High Pressure/axial flow
Fuel Type Recommended:	Regular Unleaded
Displacement:	1500-1800 cc

Electronic Fuel Injection
T3 Haul
IBR (Intelligent Brake and Reverse) System
Quick Shift Trim System
Re-boarding Step

Other Options
Slow Mode
Cruise Control
Depth Finder
Fold-Down Step
Removable Dry Bag for Front Storage
Protective Cover
Safety Kit
Fire Extinguisher

- 6 ea. ~ Trailers for the Personal Watercraft

Specifications
Aluminum Single PWC Trailer with ST175/80D-13 Tires On Aluminum Wheel with Tongue Jack

- 12 ea. ~ 20ft. Heavy Dock Lines
- 12 ea. ~ Telescopic Paddles
- 12 ea. ~ Wrap-it-up Rope Wraps
- 12 ea. ~ Pull up cleats
- 12 ea. ~ Emergency Tow Lines
- 24 ea. ~ Custom Deluxe Series Tie Downs
- 24 ea. ~ Fenders 22" White/Blue
- 12 ea. ~ Rope Float
- 6 ea. ~ Multi Color Registration Kits

The List for the Procurement and Delivery of Personal Watercrafts, Trailers and Accessories will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th , 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Personal Watercrafts, Trailers and Accessories." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

Funding for the procurement of watercrafts, trailers and accessories is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

Nation

FBI: Temple gunman shot himself; still no motive

MILWAUKEE (AP)—There's no trial to prepare, no jury to persuade, no judge to hand down a sentence.

Wade Michael Page is dead, having shot himself in the head after killing six people at a Sikh temple outside Milwaukee. Although detectives have interviewed more than 100 people, combed through Page's email and recovered hundreds of pieces of evidence from his residences to the temple, their findings might never be presented in court.

Federal investigators are developing theories but also may never know for certain why he chose to attack total strangers in a holy place.

"We're trying to piece together, and eventually we will piece together as much as we can," said Steven Conley, assistant agent in charge of national security for the FBI in Milwaukee. "We will have a good idea of the motive by the time this investigation is done. But again, why that building, that temple, at that time, that may have died with Page."

At the moment, detectives are sifting through the gunman's life, assembling the biography of a man who apparently had few relatives, a spotty work history and a thin criminal record. The FBI's special agent in charge in Milwaukee, Teresa Carlson, said investigators haven't linked anyone else to the attack or found any kind of note left by Page.

Still, the Sikh community holds out hope.

"We just want to get to the bottom of what motivated him to do it," said Amardeep Singh, an executive with the New York-based Sikh Coalition. "It's important to acknowledge why they lost their lives."

Page, a 40-year-old Army veteran, opened fire with a 9 mm pistol at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin shortly before Sunday services. The dead included temple President Satwant Singh Kaleka, who was shot as he tried to fend off Page with a butter knife.

AP

A memorial stands in Oak Creek, Wis., Tuesday Aug. 7, 2012, near the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin the site of a mass shooting on Sunday.

Page shot a responding police officer at least eight times in the parking lot before another officer wounded him. Police initially said the officer killed Page, but Carlson said Wednesday that Page shot himself in the head after he was hit and died of that wound.

A native of Littleton, Colo., Page had a record of minor alcohol-related crimes in Texas, Colorado and North Carolina. He was demoted during a stint in the Army for getting drunk on duty and going AWOL before he was discharged in 1998. Page eventually moved to Wisconsin, living in South Milwaukee with a girlfriend and working third-shift at a brazing factory in Cudahy, another Milwaukee suburb.

Armstrong, 1st to walk on moon, has heart surgery

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon, was recovering Wednesday from heart surgery, days after his 82nd birthday.

Armstrong

It wasn't clear where the surgery occurred or where Armstrong was recuperating. A NASA spokesman who talked to Armstrong's wife, Carol, said only that the former astronaut was recovering Wednesday. His birthday was Sunday.

A Facebook statement from NASA Administrator Charles Bolden wished Armstrong a quick recovery from cardiac bypass surgery.

"Neil's pioneering spirit will surely serve him well in this challenging time and the entire NASA Family is holding the Armstrong family in our thoughts and prayers," the statement said.

Armstrong commanded the Apollo 11 spacecraft that landed on the moon on July 20, 1969, and he radioed back to Earth the historic news of "one giant leap for mankind." He spent nearly three hours walking on the moon with fellow astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin.

A message Wednesday on Aldrin's Twitter account also wished Armstrong well. Armstrong and his wife married in 1999 and made their home in the Cincinnati suburb of Indian Hill, but he has largely stayed out of public view in recent years.

Census seeks changes in how it measures race

WASHINGTON (AP)—To keep pace with rapidly changing notions of race, the Census Bureau wants to make broad changes to its surveys that would treat "Hispanic" as a distinct category regardless of race, end use of the term "Negro" and offer new ways to identify Middle Easterners.

The recommendations released Wednesday stem from new government research on the best ways to count the nation's demographic groups. Still it could face stiff resistance from some racial and ethnic groups who worry that any kind of wording change in the high-stakes government count could yield a lower tally for them.

"This is a hot-button issue," said Angelo Falcon, president of the National Institute for Latino Policy in New York City and a community adviser to the census. "The burden will be on the Census Bureau to come up with evidence that wording changes will not undermine the Latino numbers."

Arab-Americans said they strongly support the Census Bureau's efforts. "The Census Bureau's current method for determining Arab ancestry yields a significant undercount of the actual size of the community, and we're optimistic that the new form should be significantly better at capturing ancestry data," the Arab American Institute said in a statement.

Apartment and Condominium for Rent

GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM

One Year Contract: Regular Price from ~~$650.00~~ NOW $500.00
Monthly Basis: Price Ranges from $550.00
Power and Water EXCLUDED
LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, where 747 Dining & Bar is situated
AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-duty security guard at night
- Parking space
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- On-site maintenance
- Swimming pool

SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT

One Year Contract: 1-Bedroom Regular Price ~~$500.00~~ NOW $400.00
Monthly Basis: Studio Type - $350.00 • 1 Bedroom - $450.00
Power and Water EXCLUDED
LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, nearby 747 Dining & Bar
AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-site maintenance
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- Parking space

PASTEL INN APARTMENT

One Year Contract: Studio – Regular Price ~~$350.00~~ NOW $250.00
2 Bedroom Regular Price ~~$550.00~~ NOW $400.00
Monthly Basis: Studio Type - $270.00 • 2 Bedroom - $420.00
LOCATION: SAN JOSE, right next to Roshi's Store (along Beach Rd)
AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-site maintenance
- Swimming pool w/ BBQ area
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- Spacious yard
- Broad parking space (front area and backside)

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW12-IFB-011

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids proposal for the ***Repair and Renovation of Tanapag Social Hall***, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after August 03, 2012 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capital Hill, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Fifty Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. ***Preference is available to US Citizens as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by PublicLaw 15-118, and must be submitted with the BID of preference is claimed.***

There will be a ***Pre-bid Conference*** for this project on August 20, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. local time at the Project Site, Tanapag Social Area, Tanapag Village, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on August 24, 2012 to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director, Technical Services Division**, DPW Bldg. #1353 Mednilla Avenue, or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW12-IFB-011"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time August 28, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time August 28, 2012, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 28, 2012, and must be received no later than September 06, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:30 a.m. local time, September 10, 2012, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on August 31, 2012.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond In the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island, and

b) Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payments or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond

Performance time for completion of this project is Ninety (90) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US $100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ VICENTE B.CASTRO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director Procurement and Supply

Asia

Fresh rains, evacuations in Manila prolong misery

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A fresh deluge forced more evacuations along fast-rising rivers in the Philippine capital Thursday, as the city and surrounding areas struggled to deal with widespread flooding triggered by nearly two weeks of relentless rains.

Even though the weather was gradually improving Thursday morning, the number of displaced was still rising, to nearly 300,000 in some 500 evacuation centers. Rescuers on rubber boats floated down flooded streets to reach thousands of residents marooned in submerged houses along the hardest-hit Marikina River.

A fresh downpour pounded Manila on Wednesday night, feeding the already-saturated watersheds that flow into the network of rivers crisscrossing the coastal city of 12 million people.

The flooding, the worst since 2009, has rattled the nerves of thousands of people who had to be evacuated for the second time in as many days after returning home following a brief respite from rains Wednesday.

"They are hard-headed. Now that the waters are high again, they got scared and they are calling us to be rescued," said police Senior Inspector Abner Perdosa, who led a team of rescuers in bright orange shirts helping residents across waist-deep muddy waters into government-run shelters.

Minerva Mercader, a beauty parlor worker, said she and her children had returned to their house near a river in suburban Quezon City when the weather cleared Wednesday, only to rush back to a Roman Catholic church when the waters rose again.

"I got scared because the sky was so dark and there was this downpour," said Mercader, who was dripping wet from the rain as she stepped into Santo Domingo Church with her three children. "We have no food and I don't know what to do."

Government forecasters said the weather would continue to improve throughout the day Thursday.

At least 23 people have died since Sunday, including nine in a landslide in a hillside slum in Quezon City and several others who drowned in outlying provinces. Classes were suspended this week as cities declared a state of calamity, and government offices were slowly reopening. The U.S. Embassy remained closed Thursday.

The national disaster-response agency said nearly 2 million people were affected by the floods, which submerged half of Manila at one point.

Manila was drenched with more than half of a month's worth of rain in just 24 hours starting Monday. A typhoon that was near China and helped intensify the Philippine rains blew into the Chinese mainland Wednesday, leading to the drier forecasts for the rest of the week.

US starts landmark Agent Orange cleanup in Vietnam

DANANG, Vietnam (AP)—Fifty years after American planes first sprayed Vietnam's thick jungles with Agent Orange to destroy enemy cover, the United States began for the first time cleaning up dioxin left from the chemical defoliant.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Thursday at a former U.S. air base in Danang.

Dioxin, a chemical linked to cancer, birth defects and other disabilities, has seeped into Vietnam's soils and watersheds, creating a war legacy that remains a thorny issue between the former foes nearly four decades after the Vietnam War ended.

Washington has been slow to respond. Since 2007 it has given about $60 million for environmental restoration and social services in Vietnam, but this is its first direct involvement in dioxin cleanup.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID
ITB12-GOV-096

Renovation of Building "K", Northern Marianas College, As-Terlaje Hill, Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, are soliciting sealed bids for the Renovation work at NMC Campus located at As-Terlaje Hill, Saipan,Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on July 25, 2012 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building on Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of $50.00 is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the CIP Office on Capitol Hill. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as ammended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A MANDATORY one time site visit, pre-bid meeting will be held at the NMC Campus, Procurement Office Building L, on August 1, 2012. Interested companies who do not attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting will be disqualified from the bidding process. Participants are required to meet promptly at Building K at 2:00 p.m. Questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia, CIP Project Manager, CIP Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 664-2408 no later than 4:00 p.m. time, August 8, 2012.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB12-GOV-096". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time (ChST), August 27, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time (ChST) August 27, 2012, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 27, 2012 and must be received no later than September 3, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time (ChST), September 4, 2012. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will open at 10:30 a.m. local time (ChST), on August 27, 2012.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00), a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is Two Hundred Seventy (270) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Two Hundred Fifty dollars ($250.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Two Hundred Seventy (270) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
NMHC RFP 2012-010
FROM
NMHC'S REGISTERED & APPROVED CONTRACTORS

ASSESSMENT AND REHABILITATION/CONSTRUCTION OF EIGHT (8) ABANDONED/FORECLOSED PROPERTIES

CLOSING DATE: THURSDAY, August 30, 2012 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors through its Chairwoman of the Board, are soliciting competitive sealed proposals from NMHC's Registered and Approved Contractors in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Copies of the proposal package may be obtained at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday except CNMI holidays.

The procedures for this procurement shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this procurement.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) provided to the Commonwealth. Aside from other governing regulations specified in the Scope of Work, proposers are advised this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts as well as Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968. Proposers are further notified NMHC will affirmatively ensure that in any contracts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority and women-owned business enterprises (MBE/WBE) are afforded equal opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, gender, age, disability or national origin.

/s/Marcie M. Tomokane
Chairwoman of the Board

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

World

Libya's transitional rulers hand over power

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—In a ceremony late Wednesday, Libya's first elected assembly took over power from the transitional council that has ruled the country since last year's uprising against longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

The ceremony marked the first peaceful power transfer in Libya's modern history. Gadhafi took control in 1969 in a bloodless coup that deposed King Idris and ruled as a dictator.

The handover comes as Libya faces daunting challenges. The transitional government failed to unite powerful militias under a national army. Instead, the militias and rival tribes often clash from their power bases in different parts of the country. Also, eastern Libya complains it is still under-represented in the new government, as it was under Gadhafi, and there is talk of setting up a semi-autonomous government there.

Mustafa Abdul-Jalil, head of the outgoing National Transitional Council, gave a conciliatory speech before dissolving his council and transferring power to the new assembly. He acknowledged the NTC's failures in restoring security but said that the council ruled in "exceptional times."

"We forgive those who harmed us," he said, drawing chants like, "the blood of the martyrs will not go in vain," along with clapping and cheering.

The 200-member assembly convened late at night with tight security measures on the anniversary of the liberation of Tripoli, when rebel forces marched into the capital, defeating Gadhafi's forces after months of deadly battles across the nation that left tens of thousands of dead and wounded.

Syrian troops push into Aleppo to oust rebels

TEL RIFAT, Syria (AP)—Syria launched a ground assault Wednesday on rebel-held areas of the besieged city of Aleppo, the center of battles between government forces and opposition fighters for more than two weeks.

It was not immediately clear if the offensive was "the mother of all battles" that Syria's state-controlled media vowed last month would take place for control of Aleppo. In recent weeks, the regime's blistering attacks on rebel positions seem to have slowly chipped away at the opposition's grip on its strongholds in the country's largest city.

The official SANA news agency said regime forces have fully regained control of the Salaheddine neighborhood, the main rebel area in Aleppo. It claimed the "fall" of hundreds of "armed terrorists," the government's catchall term for its opponents, without specifying what that meant.

Rami Abdul-Rahman, the director of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said troops met resistance in the offensive.

About 25 miles (40 kilometers) north of Aleppo, Syrian fighter jets carried out airstrikes early Wednesday on the village of Tel Rifat, hitting a home and a high school and killing six people from the same family, residents said.

Resident Mohammed Zakkour, 35, said the sound of the jets and blasts jolted him awake and he left his house to see a huge cloud of dust and smoke rising above the village.

Hours later, all that remained of a small home in the village was a tangled pile of rubble and iron bars. A bouquet of plastic red flowers poked out of the rubble, and clothes still hung from one of the few walls that remained standing.

There was a large bloodstain on a rock where residents said they found one of the bodies.

"The bodies were under the rubble," Zakkour said. "Some were cut in half and parts of them had been blown onto the neighbors' roofs."

AP

In this undated photo released by the Syrian official news agency SANA on Sunday, Aug. 5, 2012, Syrian Prime Minister Riad Hijab, center, speaks under the portrait of the Syrian President Bashar Assad during a meeting in Damascus, Syria.

WORLD BRIEFS

Gangs extort cash from Honduran homeowners

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Alejandro Duron's life changed in minutes when the envelope appeared under his front door. The note inside demanded that the 34-year-old systems analyst pay $2,500 for the privilege of remaining in the house in a high-end neighborhood. It detailed Duron's daily routine so he would know the threat was serious. "If you don't pay, we will kill you," the message warned. He and his girlfriend, Helen Ocampo, who had grown up in the home, fled immediately.

Egypt fires intelligence chief over Sinai attack

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's president fired his intelligence chief on Wednesday for failing to act on an Israeli warning of an imminent attack days before militants stormed a border post in the Sinai Peninsula and killed 16 soldiers. The dismissal, which followed Egyptian airstrikes against Sinai militants, also marked a bold attempt by the Islamist leader to deflect popular anger over the attack. It pointed to a surprising level of cooperation with the powerful military leaders who stripped the presidency of significant powers just before President Mohammed Morsi took office June 30. In a major shake-up, Morsi also asked Defense Minister Hussein Tantawi to replace the commander of the military police, a force that has been heavily used to combat street protests since the ouster of Hosni Mubarak 18 months ago. Rights activists have accused the military police of brutality against protesters.

Russia: Underground sect charged with abuse

MOSCOW (AP)—A self-proclaimed prophet had a vision from God: He would build an Islamic caliphate under the earth. The digging began about a decade ago and 70 followers soon moved into an eight-level subterranean honeycomb of cramped cells with no light, heat or ventilation. Children were born. They, too, lived in the cold underground cells for many years—until authorities raided the compound last week and freed the 27 sons and daughters of the sect. Ages 1 to 17, the children rarely saw the light of day and had never left the property, attended school or been seen by a doctor, officials said Wednesday. Their parents—sect members who call themselves "muammin," from the Arabic for "believers"—were charged with child abuse.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v- **DANIEL JOSEPH M. CABRERA and MAGDALENA S. CABRERA,** Defendants.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0054** **EIGHTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 19, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: (a) Lot No. 005 I 180, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 02, the original of which was recorded March 11, 1983, as Document No. 16707, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan; and (b) Tract No. 225840-I-I, located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on DLS Check No. 2119/92, deeded to Daniel Muna Cabrera on August 24, 1998, and recorded as File No. 99-2096 on September 3, 1999.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, August 24, 2012, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 25th day of July, 2012:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., Plaintiff, -v- **DONALD C. CAMACHO,** Defendant.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0458** **SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on May 4, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot 001 C 60 (formerly part of Lot 001 C 56, which was part of Lot 001 C 26, which was part of original Lot 001 C 05, T.D. 697), situated in San Roque Village, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 C 12, the original of which was recorded 27 August 1999 as Document No. 99-2037 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, August 24, 2012, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 25th day of July, 2012:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF POLICE PERSONAL EQUIPMENT PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-007-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following Police Personal Equipment:

- 16 ea. ~ Bulletproof Vests ~ Level IV
- 16 ea. ~ Ceramic Plates (for Level IV Vests)
- 51 ea. ~ Concealable Bulletproof Vests ~ Level III

All Bulletproof Vests must be in compliance with National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Standards.

The List for the Procurement and Delivery of Police Personal Equipment will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th , 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Police Personal Equipment." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

Funding for the procurement of police personal equipment is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Wednesday, August 15, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMARY MATTERS
  a. Call to Order
  b. Roll Call
  c. Adoption of Agenda
  d. Adoption of Minutes
    i. June 21, 2012 Special Board Meeting Minutes
    ii. June 27, 2012 Special Board Meeting Minutes
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
III. ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
  a. USDA RD Defaulted Loans
  b. Delinquency Reports by Island (Saipan, Tinian & Rota)
  c. HOME Loans for Board's Approval
  d. CDBG Update
    i. Proposed Koblerville Jr. High School
    ii. On-going Project Updates
  e. Section 8 Waitlist by Island
  f. Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Termination of Section 8/Multifamily Assistance
  g. Utility Allowance (UA) Analysis
IV. FIELD OFFICE REPORT
  a. Tinian Report
  b. Rota Report
V. FISCAL AFFAIRS
  a. Financial Reports
VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
VII. OTHER MATTERS
  a. Tottotville Update (Legal)
  b. Deloitte & Touche Audit Exit Conference
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Nose for crime: $1.2M in French perfume nabbed

PARIS (AP)—French police say 1 million euro ($1.2 million) worth of Givenchy perfume has been recovered after it was stolen by masked thieves from a warehouse in the middle of the night. The scented bounty was taken a week ago from Beauvais, near Paris, and was discovered on Tuesday, according to local police official Jean-Marie Salsat. Salsat, who revealed details of the perfume heist Friday, said the bottles were found unused, with the stoppers still in. The Sipa news agency, quoting unnamed police sources, reports that several robbers had overpowered a perfume warehouse night watchman. They later loaded trucks with the fragrances produced by the French house Givenchy, part of fashion giant LVMH. The thieves are still at large.

NY police save baby deer from 20-foot-deep manhole

MOUNT SINAI, N.Y. (AP)—Police on New York's Long Island spent over four hours rescuing a baby deer that fell into a 20-foot-deep manhole. The cute, speckled creature scampered into the woods after it was released Thursday by its beaming, burly rescuers. Landscapers called Suffolk County police around 3:30 p.m. Thursday after they saw the deer fall into the hole near a vacant lot in Mount Sinai. Four emergency service officers responded. The officers said the deer looked scared and sounded like it was crying. One officer descended while wearing a breathing apparatus and a harness.

Woman on trial accused of crashing into ex-husband

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—The attorney of a Utah woman charged with ramming an SUV through an office building to hit her estranged husband says she was on a large amount of anxiety medication and was "not in her right mind." Attorney Jason Schatz made the argument Tuesday during the start of the trial for 36-year-old Brenda Christine White. "On that day, Brenda White's body was behind the wheel of that Ford Explorer," Schatz said. "What's in dispute is why this happened." The incident happened in 2006 but there have been several appeals because her defense attorneys have appealed to use the argument that White was under extreme emotional distress.

Death and Funeral Announcement

†Jesus Taitano Salas

BORN TO LIFE: SEPTEMBER 09, 1929 - CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE: AUGUST 07, 2012

In his new life; he now joins his:
Parents: *†Juan Rabago Salas & †Carmen Taitano Salas*
Parents-in-law: *†Jose Sablan Sablan & †Nieves Palacios Sablan*
Son: *†William S. Salas/†Jose S. Salas*
Grandson: *†Vinson Josh DLG. Salas*
Brothers/Sisters/In-Laws:
***†Vicente** C. & †Magdalena T. Salas; **†Ignacio** & †Gloria M. Celis; **†Francisco** & †Francisca S. Celis; **†Obit** & †Francisca S. Celis; **†Rosa** & †Regino Mundo; **†Dolores** S. & †Ramon T. Palacios; **†Jose** T. & †Margarita V. Salas; **Maria** S. & †Vicente P. DelosReyes; **Joaquin** T. & Maria (Meng) D. Salas; **Antonio** T. & Evelyn S. Salas; **†Juan** T. & †Bernadita R. Salas; **†Nicolas** T. & Trinidad (Tannie) DLC. Salas; **Rosalia** S. & Jesus T. DLGuerrero*

†Oswald & †Josepha Sablan; †Esperanza & †Mariano Cabrera; †Francisco C. & †Regina L. Sablan; †Carmen S. & †Antonio Reyes; †Rosa S. & †William Torres; †Felipe C. & Joaquina Sablan; Pedro C. & †Alejandra Sablan; †Maria C. Sablan; †Juan C. Sablan

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Wife: ***Fidelia Sablan Salas***
Children: ***Jose** Quitanilla (Bianca)*
***†Jose** S. Salas*
***†William** S. Salas (William, Alvin, Jocelyn & Ben, Robert)*
***Francisco** S. and Rosa M. Salas (Gloria & Dominic, Delia & Bob, Selma)*
***Ramon** S. Salas (Raymond & Devana, Richard, Rodney & Britania, Roy)*
***Vicente** S. & Joaquina DLG. Salas (Virine Jay, Vachel, Jan Vilette)*
***Joseph** S. Salas & Osa (Joseph, Michael, Jonathan)*
***Lillian** S. & Larry Laveque (Joseph, Jason)*
***Juan** S. and Alicia (Kathleen, Jollen)*
Reared Daughter: ***Bernadita C.** Pete Itibus (Ramona, Emma)*

He is additionally survived by numerous uncles, aunties and cousins.

Daily Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each morning at 6:00am at Kristo Rai Church in Garapan and Holy Rosary is being prayed at 7:30pm.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, August 15, 2012. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30am to Kristo Rai Church. Responso Service will be at 7:45am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:00am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30am followed by Interment Service at Mt. Carmel Cemetery where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,

Fidelia Sablan Salas, Children and Families

Science & Technology

Google to include people's Gmail in search results

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google is creating an information bridge between its influential Internet search engine and its widely used Gmail service in its latest attempt to deliver more personal responses more quickly.

The experimental feature unveiled Wednesday will enable Google's search engine to mine the correspondence stored within a user's Gmail account for any data tied to a search request. For example, a query containing the word "Amazon" would pull emails with shipping information sent by the online retailer.

Such Gmail results will typically be shown to the right of the main results, though in some instances, the top of the search page will highlight an answer extracted directly from an email. For example, the request "my flight" will show specific airline information imported from Gmail. Something similar could eventually happen when searching for a restaurant reservation or tickets to a concert.

Although Google has a commanding lead in Internet search, it remains worried about the threat posed by social networking services such as Facebook Inc. As social networks have made it easier to share information online, the Web is starting to revolve more around people than the keywords and links that Google's search engine.

Google has been trying to adapt by building more personal services and plugging them into its search engine.

Blending email information into general search results could raise privacy worries. Google is trying to mitigate that by showing Gmail results in a collapsed format that users must open to see the details. For now, users must sign up to participate.

Google Inc. ran into trouble over privacy in 2010 when it tapped the personal contact information within Gmail accounts to build a social networking service called Buzz. Google set up Buzz in a way that caused many users to inadvertently expose personal data from Gmail. An uproar culminated in a Federal Trade Commission settlement requiring the company to improve its privacy controls and undergo audits for 20 years.

Google is treading carefully as it hooks Gmail up to its Internet search engine. The new feature initially will be available to 1 million Gmail users who sign up at http://g.co/searchtrial . That's a small fraction of the more than 425 million Gmail accounts that have been set up since Google launched its free email service eight years ago to compete against the offerings from Yahoo Inc. and Microsoft Corp.

After getting feedback from the test participants, Google hopes to give all Gmail users the option of plugging their accounts into the main search engine, according to Amit Singhal, a senior vice president for the company.

Singhal said Google is also willing to display information from other email service in its main search results. The gesture could avoid spurring additional complaints about Google abusing its position as the Internet's search leader to favor its other services.

TECHNOLOGY BRIEFS

Gabby Douglas gets most attention at NBC website

NEW YORK (AP)—Gabby Douglas is golden when it comes to online popularity, too. The gymnastics gold medalist is the most clicked-upon athlete on NBC's Olympics website, the network said. Through Sunday, her profile on the site had more than 18 million page views. That's far above the second-ranked athlete, swimmer Michael Phelps, whose profile had just over 7 million page views. Four of the five most clicked-upon athletes were female gymnasts, NBC said. The Olympics event with the most live streams through was the gold-medal-winning performance of the female gymnasts, with 1.46 million streams, followed by Usain Bolt's sprint for gold.

New app lets riders hail a NYC cab by smartphone

NEW YORK (AP)—Hailing a taxi on a New York street is going high-tech—with a smartphone application. Starting Wednesday, a passenger can send out a hailing signal to cabs with a matching app, within about a five-block area. Martin Heikel, co-founder of the Zab-Kab app, says the venture started when business partner Ben Millspaugh felt frustrated "not being able to get a cab when and where he needed one."

Source: NYTimes to sell About to Answers for $270M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The New York Times Co. has agreed to sell its troubled online information service, About.com, to rival Answers.com for $270 million, or two-thirds what the Times paid for it in 2005, according to a person familiar with the matter. About.com provides information on a wide variety of topics and also operates ConsumerSearch.com and CalorieCount.com. Content is written by paid experts known as guides. Answers.com, by contrast, relies on users to answer questions. The Times purchased About.com for roughly $410 million. It has suffered in the past year because of a change in the way Google handles search results. That change made About.com content harder to find.

Life & Style

Mighty Mouse: Investors flock to safety of Disney

LOS ANGELES (AP)—These are happy times in the Magic Kingdom.

The Walt Disney Co.'s stock is up 35 percent so far this year, outpacing its media company rivals.

Although many media companies are experiencing a post-recession bump thanks to a recovery in advertising, analysts believe Disney can offer steady growth and safety as the economy heads into murkier territory.

That's because the company has protection against a possible ad slump: The increasing fees it charges distributors of its TV channels like ESPN and ABC.

At the same time, the company's wave of investment in parks and resorts is slowing—freeing up cash for dividends and stock buybacks. And thanks to some renovations, park revenues and profit margins are on the rise.

There's also the small matter of "The Avengers," which generated $1.5-billion in ticket sales to become the third biggest movie of all time. The Marvel superhero epic has more than offset box-office bombs like "John Carter," has helped spawn TV shows, sequels and merchandise -and inspired the development of new theme park rides.

AP

In this Feb. 8, 2011 file photo, people stand near the entrance to the Walt Disney Studios in Burbank , Calif.

Disney's earnings are growing, and are expected to rise from $2.54 in per-share annual profits through September 2011 to $3.48 in fiscal 2013. That growth—at 17.1 percent per year—is above the average of 16.2 percent of peers Time Warner Inc., CBS Corp., News Corp., Viacom Inc. and Discovery Communications Inc.

One big reason Disney stock is back in favor: its profits are predictable, even when the economy slows. Two-thirds of Disney's profits come from TV networks like ESPN, ABC, Disney Channel, ABC Family and Disney XD. And even if advertising growth cools further, Disney is still locking in annual fee increases from distributors like DirecTV, with whom it is expected to renegotiate a long-term deal next year. The share of TV revenue that comes from such fees is seen rising toward the halfway point industry wide.

"These content fees really don't swing up or down with the economy," says Barton Crockett, an analyst with Lazard Capital. "Because they're less volatile, they're more valuable."

Indeed, shares are trading at 14.4 times the next 12 month's expected earnings, up from the 10.4 times future earnings they were trading at last September, according to FactSet. That's a 12 percent premium to the so-called earnings multiple of companies in the S&P 500, which measures how much investors are willing to pay for each dollar of profit. In comparison, its five peer companies are trading on average at a 2 percent discount.

Disney is better off than its peers because its market-leading pay TV channel ESPN gets three quarters of its revenue from distributors, and just a quarter from advertisers, according to Benjamin Swinburne, an analyst with Morgan Stanley.

Randy Travis arrested naked, charged with DWI

DALLAS (AP)—Country singer Randy Travis was charged with driving while intoxicated and threatening law officers after he crashed his Pontiac Trans Am and was found naked and combative at the scene, Texas officials said.

The accident was reported Tuesday night, and Travis walked out of jail Wednesday morning wearing scrubs, no shoes and a University of Texas baseball cap. It was the second Texas arrest this year for Travis, who was cited in February for public intoxication.

A Pontiac Trans Am registered to the 53-year-old singer had veered off a roadway near Tioga, a town about 60 miles north of Dallas where the entertainer lives, and struck several barricades in a construction zone, said Tom Vinger, spokesman for the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Vinger said Travis made threats against DPS troopers and was not wearing clothes at the time of his arrest. The singer refused sobriety tests so a blood specimen was taken, he said.

"Travis had a strong odor of alcoholic beverage on his breath and several signs of intoxication," according to a statement from the Grayson County Sheriff's Office. "While Travis was being transported, Travis made threats to shoot and kill the troopers working the case."

Grayson County District Attorney Joe Brown said his office will review the DPS report of the arrest.

A Travis representative said there would be no immediate comment on the arrest.

Travis, whose suffered facial bruises in the crash, was released on $21,500 bond Wednesday morning from the jail in Sherman, Vinger said. Blood-test results are pending.

AP

This photo provided by the Grayson County, Texas, Sheriff's Office shows Country singer Randy Travis who has been charged with driving while intoxicated.

In February, Travis was charged with public intoxication after being spotted in a vehicle parked in front of a church in Sanger, about 20 miles from Tioga.

He also has been involved in messy court proceedings with his ex-wife. Travis was divorced from Elizabeth Travis in 2010 after 19 years of marriage.

Earlier this year, Elizabeth Travis, who had been his manager for more than three decades, filed a lawsuit claiming that Randy Travis made it impossible for her to do her job and terminated her management contract without proper notice. She said her ex-husband sent several men, including an armed guard, to clean out her offices.

Randy Travis countersued in May, accusing his ex-wife of divulging confidential information about him in order to damage his reputation and career. The court documents don't say what information Elizabeth Travis is alleged to have betrayed.

Sesame Street casting Latino character

NEW YORK (AP)—So you grew up watching Elmo, Cookie Monster and Big Bird, and now you want to be friends with Rosita, Luis and Maria.

If you are a bilingual actor or actress between the ages of 18 and 25, this may be the chance of a lifetime: "Sesame Street" is looking for a new Hispanic character.

The producers of "Sesame Street" told The Associated Press that they are holding an open casting call on Monday, August 20 at Manhattan's Roseland Ballroom for a recurring character to join the "`Sesame Street' family."

"We hope many people show up. We know the Latino community is full of talented people," said Rocio Galarza, senior director of content planning, design and outreach for Sesame Workshop, the non-profit organization behind "Sesame Street."

Although it's too early to talk about the specifics of the new character—which would depend on the chosen actor or actress' background—Galarza said they are looking for someone capable of singing and improvising in both English and Spanish and with a good sense of humor.

"Sesame Street" debuted in 1969 and has added versions in countries like Israel, Nigeria, Germany and Mexico, where "Plaza Sésamo" is produced. The series has always tried to adapt to the realities of the changing American population, which has seen a sharp increase in Hispanics in the last decades.

AP

This April 11, 2011 file photo, character "Rosita" from Sesame Street gestures during a taping of the show in New York.

Maria (played by Sonia Manzano) and Luis (Emilio Delgado) debuted in 1971. The character of Rosita, the turquoise monster with enormous arms, an orange nose and pink eyebrows, debuted in 1993 with the help of Mexican puppeteer Carmen Osbahr, who also lends her voice to Ovejita.

Galarza said the 44th season of "Sesame Street" will focus on the Hispanic heritage.

"Sesame Street" airs on PBS Kids.

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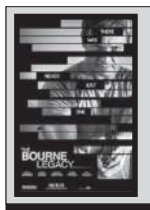
Bourne Legacy
Friday and Saturday 1:05 4:00 7:00 9:45
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:05 4:00 7:00
Cast: ast: Jeremy Renner, Rachel Weisz
Spy film, Action • Rated PG13
Synopsis
The fourth installment of the highly successful Bourne series sees the return of the franchise's screenwriter, Tony Gilroy, this time stepping into the director's seat for an entry which sidelines main character Jason Bourne in order to focus on a fellow estranged assassin (Jeremy Renner). Edward Norton and Rachel Weisz co-star, with Joan Allen and Albert Finney reprising their roles from the previous films.

The Campaign
Friday and Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Cast: Will Ferrell, Zach Galifianakis
Comedy • Rated R
Synopsis
Two powerful CEOs pit a blundering congressman against an unlikely political newcomer in order to seize control of a crucial North Carolina district in this satirical political comedy starring Will Ferrell and Zach Galifianakis. On the eve of an upcoming election, incumbent congressman Cam Brady (Ferrell) makes a misstep that threatens to end his career in politics. Recognizing the opportunity to gain influence in the aftermath of the public gaffe, a pair of scheming CEOs handpick credulous tourism-center director Marty Huggins (Galifianakis) as Brady's political rival, quickly shaping him into a viable candidate with the help of a seasoned campaign manager. As Election Day draws near, Brady and Huggins cast ethics aside to engage in the brand of hysterical mud-slinging that's sent contemporary politics straight down the toilet.

Total Recall
Friday and Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:50
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Cast: Colin Farrell, Kate Beckinsale, Jessica Biel
Science, Fiction • Rated PG13

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days
Friday and Saturday 1:00 4:20 7:20 9:40
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:00 4:20 7:20
Cast: Zachary Gordon, Devon Bostick
Children's/family • Rated PG

The Dark Knight Rises
Friday and Saturday 12:55 4:05 7:10 10:15
Sunday thru Tuesday 12:55 4:05 7:10
Cast: Christian Bale, Michael Caine
Crime, Action • Rated PG13

Ice Age 4: Continental Drift
Friday and Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:30
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Cast: Ray Romano, John Leguizamo
Children's/family • Rated PG

The Amazing Spider-Man
Friday and Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:05 9:55
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:10 4:10 7:05
Cast: Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone
Action, Fantasy, Drama • Rated PG13
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www.gohollywood.com

Wife with appetite for sex has husband who's never hungry

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am 38 and have been married to a good husband and provider for 11 years. We have two beautiful children and a lovely home. We appear to be the perfect couple.

Our problem is, my husband seems to be intimidated by my sexuality. In the past, I have told my husband what pleases me. My comments made him feel inadequate, and he has completely given up. We haven't had sex in two years. He says he would rather pleasure himself so he doesn't have to worry that he isn't "doing it right."

I am a normal, red-blooded woman, and I need sex several times a month. Is that so wrong? I have resorted to having an affair with a man whose wife isn't interested in sex, but I would prefer having a sex life with my husband.

I think my husband knows I am unfaithful. However, he accepts it because it's easier for him to deal with than having sex with me. Is there anything I can do to make my husband try again?

DESPERATELY SEEKING SEX

DEAR DESPERATELY: Having affairs may temporarily satisfy your sexual needs, but it can only damage your marriage further. If ever there were candidates who could benefit from sex therapy, it is you and your husband. Even though he may be reluctant to face this problem, insist that he see a therapist with you. Please don't wait—it could save your marriage.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm 17 and have been best friends with "Alana" for five years. We do everything together. We like the same things, and we're so close that we finish each other's sentences. She's like a sister to me.

However, the difference between us is that Alana gets crushes on boys that never work out, whereas multiple boys have liked me. After each crush falls through, Alana says her life is awful and it must be her fault. When I try to tell her it's not her fault and she's a wonderful person, she ends the conversation.

It hurts me to see her upset, but sometimes I feel lost about what to do. What can I do to help my friend know she's a beautiful person inside and out, and she doesn't need a boy to be happy? I love her and just want her to be OK.

BEST FRIENDS IN RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CALIF.

DEAR BEST FRIENDS: Until Alana learns for herself that she doesn't need a boy to be happy, she will continue developing crushes that don't work out. Boys are attracted to girls who appear to be happy and confident, and your friend appears to be neither. Much as you might like to, you can't fix this for her. But once she finally gets the message, she will probably realize that someone she never took the time to notice has a crush on HER.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I gave birth to a son almost 40 years ago. His biological father would not help me, so I placed the baby for adoption.

Here's the problem: People are always asking me if I have any children. Should I lie and say no, or try to explain? Legally, my son does not belong to me. Please tell me what to say to my questioners.

SINCERELY CONCERNED

DEAR CONCERNED: Usually people ask that question only as a way to make conversation. Your personal history is nobody's business. If you prefer not to give a detailed explanation about your personal history, simply say no.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Lady Gaga still finds ways to be 'irresponsible'

NEW YORK (AP)—Lady Gaga is one of the most visible celebrities in the world, but she says not everything she does is documented.

In the September issue of Vogue magazine, Gaga says she likes to "feel a little irresponsible and act like I'm nineteen." She goes on to admit she even manages to "roll into a bar" and dance topless or have sex on the beach without getting recognized.

The 26-year-old singer credits her friends for helping her not get caught by paparazzi.

The September issue of Vogue is its 120th anniversary issue and the magazine's largest yet.

It goes on sale Aug. 21.

Lady Gaga ➤

Monkees announce 1st tour since Davy Jones' death

AP

This July 6, 1967 file photo shows the musical group, The Monkees, from left, Peter Tork, Mike Nesmith, David Jones, and Micky Dolenz at a news conference at the Warwick Hotel in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—The Monkees will perform their first live shows since star Davy Jones died in February.

Michael Nesmith, Micky Dolenz, and Peter Tork announced Wednesday that the group will launch a 12-date U.S. tour in November. It's the band's first tour since 1997.

Jones died of a heart attack on Feb. 29 at age 66.

The group starred in its own NBC television show in 1966 as a made-for-TV band seeking to capitalize on Beatlemania sweeping the world. Jones rocketed to the top of the music charts with The Monkees, captivating audiences with hits including "Daydream Believer" and "I'm a Believer."

The tour kicks off Nov. 8 in Escondido, Calif. It wraps on Dec. 2 in New York. It will highlight Jones "in the show's multimedia content."

Cameron Diaz working on fitness book

NEW YORK (AP)—Cameron Diaz's latest project is all about looking and feeling good.

HarperCollins announced Wednesday that the star of "Charlie's Angels," "There's Something About Mary" and other films has an agreement with the publisher for a book on health and wellness. Diaz's book is currently untitled and scheduled for publication in the fall of 2013.

According to HarperCollins, the book will offer advice to young women about health, fitness, nutrition and general well-being. The publisher says Diaz hopes to "engage and empower" women.

Diaz, who turns 40 later this month, has spoken often about the importance of health and fitness and her desire to share advice.

In this May 14, 2012 file photo, Cast member Cameron Diaz poses at the Los Angeles premiere of the film "What to Expect When You're Expecting," in Los Angeles.

AP

AP

This April 12, 2012 file photo shows Kristin Cavallari at the Conde Nast Traveler Hot List Party at The Presidential Suite of Hotel Bel-Air in Los Angeles.

Cavallari welcomes baby boy with fiance QB Cutler

NEW YORK (AP)—Kristin Cavallari is a new mom. The former star of MTV reality shows "Laguna Beach" and "The Hills" has given birth to her first child, a boy named Camden Jack Cutler. The baby's father is Cavallari's fiance, Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler.

The 25-year-old Cavallari wrote Wednesday on Twitter that she was "thrilled" to announce the baby's birth that morning. He weighed 7 lbs., 9 oz. She added that everyone was "doing great."

Her publicist Jack Ketsoyan confirmed the birth.

Cavallari and the 29-year-old Cutler announced their engagement in 2011 but broke up briefly last summer. They reconciled a few months later.

Fallon was asked, and passed, on Oscar host gig

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jimmy Fallon says he was asked to host next year's Academy Awards but declined the gig.

The talk-show host told Matt Lauer Wednesday that "it's an honor to be asked by the academy, but it's not my year."

Fallon, who hosted the 2010 Primetime Emmys, made the remarks during a "Today" show broadcast from London.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences did not respond to requests for comment. The organization recently elected a new president, Hawk Koch, whose responsibility it is to help select the Oscar telecast producer.

Traditionally, the producer then chooses the Oscar host. But the academy has not announced its choice for producer, yet Fallon's comments would suggest the process of selecting a host is already under way.

Meanwhile, last year's Oscar host, Billy Crystal, tells USA Today he would be open to returning for a 10th turn at leading the ceremony. "The door is open. It's up to them. I had a very good time this last time," he said.

The 85th Academy Awards will be presented Feb. 24, 2013.

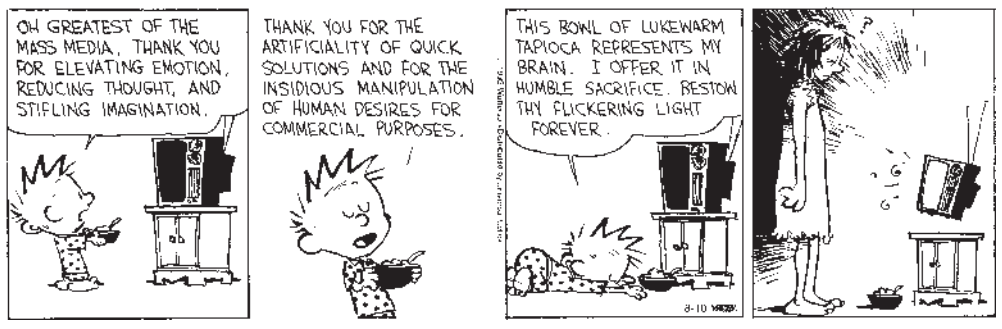
AP

In this Aug. 29, 2010 file photo, host Jimmy Fallon presents during the 62nd Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

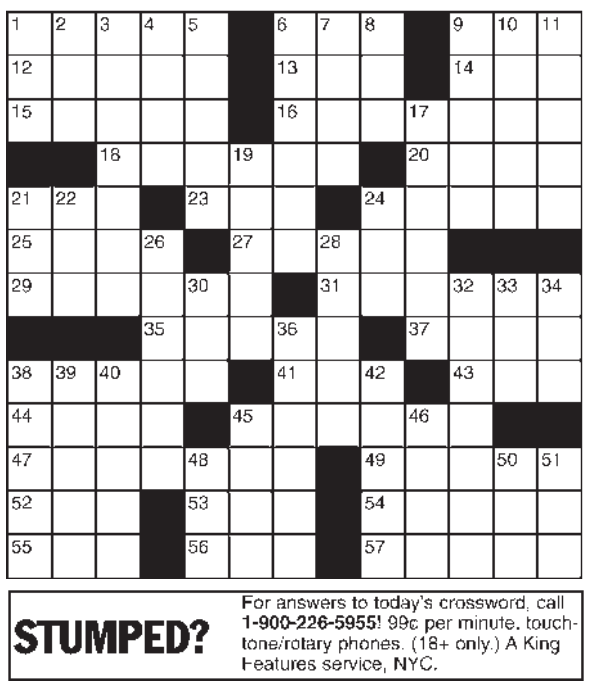
ACROSS
1 Colorado ski mecca
6 Aries
9 Bookkeeper (Abbr.)
12 Camel's cousin
13 "The Greatest"
14 Chance
15 Hammerstein's contribution
16 Decorative floor
18 Knapsack parts
20 Kazakhstan river
21 Buddhist sect
23 Lamb's dam
24 Minimal change
25 Writer Kingsley
27 Rice, on a Mexican menu
29 Minnesotan
31 Fled to wed
35 Heat
37 Appellation
38 Miss USA adornment
41 Neighbor of Ukr.
43 Abrade
44 Con
45 Oft-repeated word
47 Layered dessert
49 Carnival attractions
52 Blackbird
53 Paid player
54 Old marketplace
55 Vast expanse
56 Listener
57 Grew

DOWN
1 Every iota
2 Crafty
3 Carrot's cousin
4 Send forth
5 Mother-of-pearl
6 50 Cent, e.g.
7 "Sad to say..."
8 Bygone space station
9 Make butter
10 Song of joy
11 As deemed fit
17 — City (former Philippine capital)
19 Trophy, for one
21 Sharp turn
22 Comedian Philips
24 D.C. type
26 "Doctor Zhivago" star
28 Same old story?
30 Detergent brand
32 Baffling contradiction
33 Flightless bird
34 Society newcomer
36 Demosthenes, for one
38 Spanish appetizers
39 Foolish
40 Places in the heart
42 Malt shop item
45 Actress Sorvino
46 Latvia's capital
48 Gorilla
50 Prior to
51 Blue

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	N	T	I	■	B	A	H	■	E	P	E	E
R	O	O	M	■	E	K	E	■	N	A	R	D
K	N	O	B	■	T	A	R	■	G	R	I	D
S	E	N	I	O	R	■	S	M	I	L	E	Y
■	■	■	B	R	A	■	■	A	N	A	■	■
F	A	D	E	■	Y	O	U	R	E	Y	E	S
C	H	I	■	■	E	R	N	■	■	E	R	A
C	A	S	C	A	D	E	S	■	E	D	G	Y
■	■	M	A	L	■	■	W	I	N	■	■	■
U	N	A	B	L	E	■	A	F	F	E	C	T
S	O	Y	A	■	D	R	Y	■	O	S	L	O
E	V	E	N	■	A	Y	E	■	L	A	I	R
D	A	D	A	■	M	E	D	■	D	U	P	E

Yesterday's answer 8-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Angie Harmon, 40; Justin Theroux, 41; Antonio Banderas, 52; Rosanna Arquette, 53.

Happy Birthday: Don't overdo it. Consider how you can be most effective before you agree to an offer or a plan in progress. You have to maximize your time in order to reach your goals. Helping others is fine, but don't sacrifice your objectives for the sake of someone else getting ahead. Partnerships may be deceiving. Your numbers are 7, 18, 21, 27, 34, 42, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You can find a new source of income if you dig up an old idea or contact someone you have worked with in the past. Don't let love, family or relationships get you down when you should be focused on pursuing a creative dream. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Stubbornness will be your downfall. Listen to what others say and meet demands halfway. A little give-and-take will go a long way and spare you the grief of an impossible standoff. Be creative and you'll find a solution. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You'll be thinking and doing things on a big scale. Before you proceed, make sure you can afford what you plan to do. Don't be fooled by someone promising the impossible. Look for alternatives that fit your budget. Avoid excessive behavior. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Settle for less if it will ease your stress. Put love and enjoyment high on your list. All work and no play will lead to negative decisions and conduct. A practical approach will help you protect what you have already acquired. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Make a difference. Bringing about reform or altering someone's life positively will add to your popularity and put you in a leadership position. Financial gain is likely if you put a unique spin on a service you offer. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Resolve issues before they escalate. Problems will develop at work or with someone you have to deal with daily if you are too meek or refuse to stand up for your rights. Show backbone and say what's on your mind. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't spend or ask someone else to spend on luxury items you don't need. You are better off saving for a rainy day and avoiding the stress of dealing with added expenses or causing a rift between you and someone you love. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Listen, but make your decision based on what will benefit you most. Love should be your top priority, and socializing or planning a romantic evening for two should be your intent. A creative service can turn into a moneymaking endeavor. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Take care of medical, legal or financial issues before they get too big. Changes to your home and personal life will give you a positive outlook and help you reconnect with your dreams and goals. A past partner will resurface. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): A series of events will command attention. Problems will occur if you are unwilling to compromise. Younger or older people will have worthwhile suggestions. Listen to reason and avoid a foolish mistake. Love will help resolve situations. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Expand your interests. Take on new challenges. Step outside your comfort zone and you will discover you have more to offer than you realize. Greater financial opportunities will develop if you offer a specialized service. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Find out firsthand. Don't rely on what others say. Do whatever is required without asking for help. Show your talent and reap the rewards. A chance to enhance your appearance, domestic surroundings or love life is apparent. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are a dreamer and a lover. You are unusual and innovative.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	3		6	8	2		7	
		1		5		3		
4								7
3		8				9		5
1								6
		6		1		5		
	8		4	9	3		1	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	7	8	6	1	2	4	3	5
4	3	5	7	8	9	2	6	1
2	1	6	5	3	4	7	9	8
5	2	7	3	9	6	8	1	4
6	9	4	8	5	1	3	7	2
3	8	1	2	4	7	6	5	9
8	5	2	1	6	3	9	4	7
1	6	9	4	7	8	5	2	3
7	4	3	9	2	5	1	8	6

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HORSEBACK RIDING **Solution: 8 letters**

H	K	T	N	U	O	M	V	A	U	L	T	I	N	G
H	A	C	K	A	M	O	R	E	D	T	R	A	I	N
O	S	L	A	T	L	O	B	A	J	O	G	M	D	I
B	E	O	T	T	F	M	R	O	F	O	S	A	R	Y
B	H	O	L	E	J	U	M	P	S	I	C	R	I	H
L	C	P	E	O	R	U	R	R	N	Ⓣ	N	K	V	S
E	N	S	E	L	T	A	M	A	W	Ⓞ	H	S	E	S
C	A	D	E	N	C	E	I	P	I	Ⓡ	S	O	O	Y
N	R	S	E	I	D	R	P	T	E	Ⓣ	T	G	H	K
A	E	T	N	I	T	S	I	I	G	R	A	I	S	C
R	N	G	R	S	A	S	K	C	A	A	L	T	E	O
U	I	A	E	D	N	C	A	C	S	F	L	A	S	D
D	U	U	D	A	A	G	E	F	S	E	F	L	R	D
N	Q	L	R	R	S	R	E	V	A	R	T	E	O	A
E	E	T	T	E	U	O	R	I	P	O	L	O	H	P

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Bolt, Cadence, Circle, Drive, Endurance, Equestrianism, Equine, Farm, Fast, Fees, Form, Gallop, Hackamore, Halter, Hobble, Horseshoe, Jockey, Jog, Jumper, Jumps, Latigo, Loops, Mark, Mount, Paddock, Passage, Piaffe, Pirouette, Polo, Race, Racing, Ranches, Ride, Saddle, Show, Shying, Solo, Stall, Tack, Tent, Track, Train, Transition, Travers, Trot, Vaulting

Yesterday's Answer: Survey Says

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CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

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ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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Find today's solution in classified section

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN A TanHoldings Company

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Spa Massage Therapist
Qualification: minimum of 2 years work experience as a masseuse. Ability to speak English and Chinese language is highly preferred. Performs professional massage therapy, body treatments and facials. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including holidays, weekends and nights. Good customer service and interpersonal skills are required.

Applications may be obtained from Fiesta Resort's security office located at the South Wing. No phone calls please. Closing date for applications to be submitted and considered is August 13, 2012.

DFS

DFS SAIPAN LIMITED has a job opening for

Talent Management Manager

Primary function:
The Talent Management Manager is responsible for ensuring compliance in all Talent Management (TM) areas including Local and Federal employment laws and regulations, including but not limited to workplace safety, Wage & Salary Administration, FMLA, ADA, and Fair Employment Practices. Ensure timely compliance in reporting Federal and Local and other statutory requirements. Implements company and TM policies and oversees TM activities such as employment, compensation, employee relations and communications, benefits, training and employee services for the Division.

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- Bachelors Degree in HR Management, Business or equivalent.
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- Integrated HR/Payroll systems experience desirable.
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- Ability to work with all levels of management and staff, and in a team environment.
- Excellent written and verbal skills.
- Must maintain a high degree of confidentiality.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Able to work a flexible schedule.

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NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586 SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-12-005
Position: Sergeant at Arms
Opening Date: August 3, 2012
PL-UNGRADED: $899.77 B/W
Closing Date: August 17, 2012
The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

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1. Responsible for the safety & security of members of the legislative house he or she is assigned to;
2. Attends all sessions, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer of the house to which he or she is assigned;
3. Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled by the house to which he or she is assigned and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
4. Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority of the house to which he or she is assigned;
5. Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
6. Inspects and operates the chamber's sound system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
7. Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis;
8. Arrives no later than 7:30 AM to insure the security of the building for the start of every business day as well after working hours;
9. Alternate hours may be arranged regularly work past normal hours; and
10. Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:
- Possess two years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education;
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Position: Web Content Editor / Systems Technician
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The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Closing Date: August 17, 2012
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

Duties and Responsibilities:
1. Updates the CNMI Legislative website not limited to status tables, calendar, agenda, journals, and legislative documents and information;
2. Operates personal computer;
3. Maintains the Legislature's website;
4. Converts legislative documents to Adobe PDF file format or electronic media format as required;
5. Archiving of legislative electronic files;
6. Manage legislative email accounts;
7. Maintain the legislature's local area network;
8. Install upgrades and troubleshoots Windows operating systems as well as category 5 cables and switches;
9. Assist legislative and Bureau staff on network and computer-related matters
10. Recommend and upgrade technological needs of the Legislature;
11. Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:
- Possess two years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree in Computer Applications or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education;
- Excellent organizational, analytical, and time management skills, detailed-oriented and ability to multi-task;
- Basic knowledge of HTML;
- Proficiencies in Windows Operating Systems, Microsoft Word and spreadsheet applications.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

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Yankees end Tigers' winning streak

DETROIT (AP)—New York's Curtis Granderson snapped out of a short slump by hitting his 30th homer of the season and driving in four runs to help the Yankees beat Detroit 12-8 on Wednesday, ending the Tigers' six-game winning streak.

Granderson batted sixth in the lineup for the first time since May because he had two straight 0-for-5 games and just four hits in his previous 25 at-bats. The change seemed to work as he had an RBI single in the first, a home run in the third and a double in the seventh. He matched his season high for RBIs.

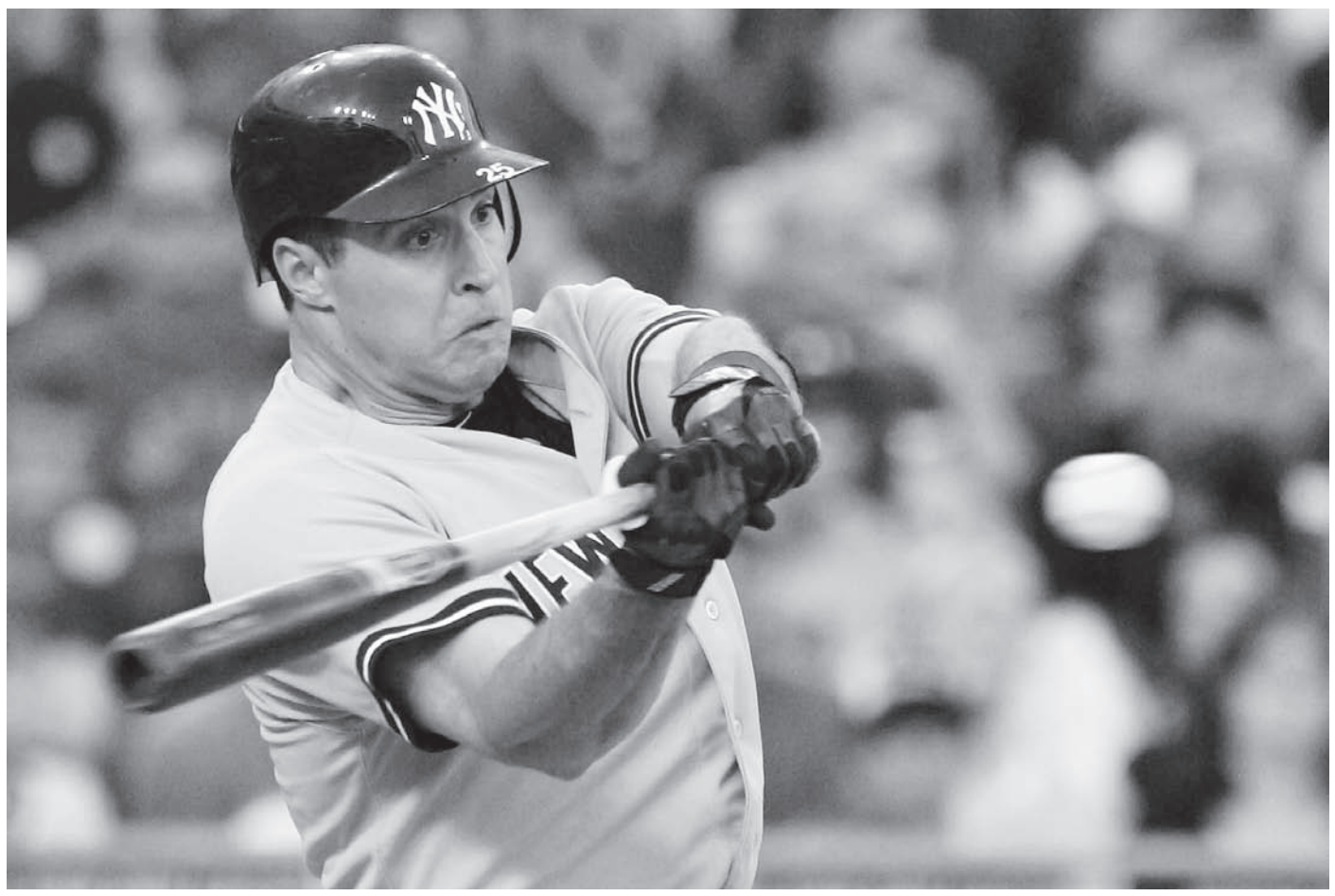
Down 7-0 at one point, the Tigers closed to 8-7 in the seventh, ending the game for New York starter C.C. Sabathia (12-3), who gave up eight hits and struck out seven over 6 2-3 innings.

The AL East-leading Yankees then pulled away. Detroit had won 10 straight at home, matching its best streak in 13 seasons at Comerica Park.

Eric Chavez and Granderson hit RBI singles in the first for a 2-0 lead. Sanchez hit Robinson Cano and walked Chavez in the third before Granderson homered.

Nick Swisher's RBI single chased Sanchez in the fourth and Mark Teixeira's sacrifice fly gave the Yankees a seven-run lead.

Jeff Baker, playing for the first time since the Tigers acquired him Sunday from the Chicago Cubs, hit a two-out double in the fourth and scored on Brennan Boesch's single. Baker's two-run single in the sixth pulled Detroit within four runs.



AP

New York Yankees' Mark Teixeira hits a sacrifice fly to center field to score Derek Jeter during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2012, in Detroit.

Rangers 10, Red Sox 9

In Boston, Adrian Beltre had a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the ninth inning as Texas recovered from blowing a late four-run lead and squeezed past Boston.

Josh Hamilton homered among his three hits and had four RBIs for the Rangers, which couldn't hold a 9-5 lead but still snuck home.

Texas' Alexi Ogando (2-0) worked two perfect innings of relief for the win. Joe Nathan pitched the ninth for the save.

Athletics 9, Angels 8

In Oakland, California, Chris Carter hit a two-run homer to cap a five-run sixth inning which lifted Oakland over Los Angeles.

A's rookie Dan Straily gave up four homers in his second career start, and reliever Pat Neshek (1-0) took the win. Ryan Cook gave up two runs in the ninth before escaping with the save.

Orioles 9, Mariners 2

In Baltimore, Steve Johnson struck out nine over six innings in his first major league start, guiding Baltimore to a three-game sweep of Seattle.

Johnson (1-0) gave up two runs after being called up from the minors to sub for Tommy Hunter, who was scratched because he threw in the bullpen Tuesday.

His debut starter came exactly 23 years after his father, former Orioles pitcher Dave Johnson, made his first career start in Baltimore.

Rays 3, Blue Jays 2

In St. Petersburg, Alex Cobb pitched seven solid innings to steer Tampa Bay to a tight win over Toronto.

Cobb (6-8) allowed one run, striking out seven.

The Rays clinched their 16th consecutive home series win over Toronto by winning the first two games of the three-game set. The longest such streak in AL history is 19, held by the New York Yankees against the St. Louis Browns from 1946-51.

Royals 2, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Jeremy Guthrie picked up his first victory since May, going eight innings as Kansas City edged Chicago.

Guthrie (1-3) got his first win with the Royals since arriving in a late July trade from Colorado. He struck out five and walked none.

Solo home runs by Mike Moustakas and Salvador Perez provided all the runs for Kansas City.

Indians 6, Twins 2

In Cleveland, Justin Masterson pitched seven strong innings and Choo Shin-soo went 4-for-4 as Cleveland beat Minnesota to end an 11-game losing streak.

The Indians avoided tying the 1931 franchise record for consecutive losses. Cleveland, which was outscored 95-36 in the streak, won for the first time since July 26.

Masterson (8-10) allowed two runs and three hits in seven innings.

Giants 15, Cardinals 0

In San Francisco, Marco Scutaro hit a grand slam and drove in a career-high seven runs, as the Giants romped past St. Louis 15-0 in the National League on Wednesday.

Scutaro had an RBI single in the third, a two-run double in the eighth and then hit his third career slam in the ninth.

Ahead 2-0, the Giants broke it open with five runs in the sixth.

Pirates 7, Diamondbacks 6

In Pittsburgh, Neil Walker homered and drove in five runs as Pittsburgh beat Arizona despite giving up four errors.

Walker hit a three-run homer in the first—his career-high 13th of the season—and added a two-run double in the fifth to give Pittsburgh the lead for good.

Brewers 3, Reds 2

In Milwaukee, Ryan Braun snapped an 18-at bat slump with an RBI double in the eighth inning, lifting Milwaukee to a three-game sweep of Cincinnati.

Cincinnati's Jonathan Broxton (1-1) started the eighth with the Reds leading 2-1. He retired the first two batters before an infield single by Norichka Aoki. Aoki stole second and took third on a throwing error.

Braves 12, Phillies 6

In Philadelphia, Dan Uggla hit a tiebreaking three-run double in the seventh as Atlanta recovered from blowing a five-run lead and beat Philadelphia.

The Phillies scored five runs in the fifth to tie the game 6-6, but the wild card-leading Braves scored four runs after Antonio Bastardo (2-4) got the first two outs in the seventh.

Marlins 13, Mets 0

In New York, Giancarlo Stanton hit two two-run homers as Miami handed New York its ninth straight home loss.

Stanton went deep twice against an ineffective Chris Young (3-6) and finished with four hits in his second game back from knee surgery.

Nationals 4, Astros 3

In Houston, Gio Gonzalez pitched nine innings and hit a home run—both career firsts—to lead Washington past Houston.

Nationals manager Davey Johnson was hoping Gonzalez (14-6) could go deep into this game after his bullpen had been taxed with games of 11 and 12 innings to start this series.

Dodgers 6, Rockies 4

In Los Angeles, Chad Billingsley gave up an inside-the-park home run on his fourth pitch of the game but steadied to win his fourth straight start, as Los Angeles beat Colorado.

Billingsley (8-9) was charged with seven hits in 6 1-3 innings and struck out five against a starting lineup that included five rookie position players.

Padres 2, Cubs 0

In San Diego, Clayton Richard pitched a shutout as San Diego swept Chicago.

Richard (9-11) pitched out of trouble three times to hand Chicago its eighth straight loss. Richard struck out five, walked one and hit a batter as the Cubs had a runner reach third base three times.

Woods and company race for last major

KIAWAH ISLAND, S.C. (AP) —The final major of the year, and everyone was cramming for their last big exam.

Ernie Els and Adam Scott walked up to the 18th green at Kiawah Island on Wednesday evening about the time most people in the low country would be going out for a dinner of shrimp and grits. Behind them on the Ocean Course was Ian Poulter, facing the prospect of missing out on the Ryder Cup team, and Graeme McDowell, in Sunday contention at the last two majors and hopeful the outcome at the PGA Championship will be different

The major that bills itself as "Glory's Last Shot" felt more like a pop quiz.

Rain has pounded Kiawah Island throughout the week, and it got so bad Wednesday that play was suspended because of storms before anyone teed off. It has led to limited practice time on the one course where players really need it.

This is the first time South Carolina has hosted a major championship. Kiawah Island had the Ryder Cup in 1991, so long ago that Jose Maria Olazabal is the only player at the PGA Championship who played in the matches. And he's only in the field as the European captain.

McDowell, Scott and Tiger Woods were among those who came to Kiawah last week for a look at the Pete Dye design, though all of them remarked that 2 inches of rain had fallen the night before and it was soft. Not much has changed a week later.

"The last couple of days have been very difficult from a preparation standpoint," McDowell said. "The golf course has taken a lot of rain. It seems to drain extremely well, though. But there's no doubt, this golf course is a long course, and this little bit of rain is going to make it play longer, and certainly is changing the dynamic of it as we speak."

Then, he headed out for an emergency nine, one last chance to see the stretch of holes that could determine the winner.

"It's going to be busy this afternoon," he said. "Guys are scrambling around to get their preparation done. Thankfully, I feel like I have done enough so far."

At most majors, practice rounds are busy Monday and Tuesday, with mostly work on the practice range on the eve of the championship, perhaps nine holes in the morning.

"It was a little strange to prepare—not your typical week leading up to a major," Stewart Cink said late Wednesday afternoon. "But it was fine. We could get enough work in. Everybody is in the same boat, so it will be all right."

No one is sure what to expect at Kiawah, the longest course in major championship history at 7,676 yards, depending on how they set it up.

The nines on the Ocean Course are divided by the clubhouse and practice range—the front nine is to the north and cuts through marshes, the back nine to the south, about a mile away from the ninth green, and featuring majestic views of the Atlantic Ocean beyond the dunes and sea oats.

The course looks wide open, although typical of a Dye design, it forces players to look at trouble without realizing there's more room than meets the eye. The last time Kiawah was in a major spotlight—the '91 Ryder Cup—the course was new and ragged around the edges, the wind picked up and it was pure survival. Hale Irwin had a 41 on the back nine and still won the decisive point for a U.S. victory, but only after Bernhard Langer missed a 6-foot par putt. That anguish on his face epitomized the emotions of the Ryder Cup.

US men's hoops team enters semifinals

LONDON (AP)—Now that Kobe Bryant, strangely missing, has finally joined the fun, the U.S. appears complete.

Oh, there are some major defensive flaws, but that hardly matters to this suped-up, American-manufactured scoring machine that goes from zero to 100 points in seconds.

Overpowering and dominant in a way not seen since the 1992 Dream Team, the Americans are now two wins from a second straight Olympic gold medal.

Argentina awaits.

"We're ready," Carmelo Anthony said.

Pushed by teammate Kevin Durant to "turn it on," Bryant scored 20 points—all in the second half—and the U.S. team stomped its way into the semifinals with a 119-86 win on Wednesday night over Australia, which scrapped as hard as it could until the world's best team put the game away.

Bryant made six 3-pointers, LeBron James racked up a triple-double with 11 points, 14 rebounds and 12 assists and the U.S. moved a step closer to gold on the 20th anniversary of the '92 team's historic rampage in Barcelona. With NBA Commissioner David Stern and two-time Olympian Dwyane Wade watching from the stands, the Americans set up a rematch in the semifinals with Argentina—a team they buried by 29 in the preliminary round.

Unless the Argentines, with their roster of thirty-somethings, can find a way to slow down the U.S., another lopsided loss seems inevitable.

"We have maybe a five-percent chance of winning," forward Manu Ginobili said after Argentina beat Brazil 82-77 to set up a third straight meeting with the U.S. in the semifinals. "But we are going to fight for that."

Bryant had been more spectator than spectacular since coming to London. He entered the quarterfinals averaging just 9.4 points per game, touching off questions about whether he was hurt, disinterested or perhaps unable to produce the same way Anthony, Durant and James have been.

Nobody's wondering any longer.

At halftime, Anthony and Durant both pushed the man nicknamed the Black Mamba to do more, and Bryant struck back with a barrage of 3-pointers that sent the U.S. bench into a towel-waving frenzy.

"He was a little sleepy out there," Anthony said. "I guess I woke up the Mamba and he responded."

Deron Williams added 18 points, Anthony 17 and Durant 14 for the Americans, who pounded Argentina 126-97 on Monday night in their preliminary-round finale. Tempers flared in that one when Argentina guard Facunda Campazzo intentionally punched Anthony in the groin. Campazzo said he retaliated for being punched earlier by U.S. guard Chris Paul, who never denied that he took a swipe at Campazzo.

"Which time," Paul said. "We tangled 1,000 times."

Anthony doesn't expect the Argentines to play nice again.

"You just have to go out there and take them punches—not literally," he said. "We're excited about it. Just now in the huddle we said we gotta prepare for them."

Down by 14 at halftime, Australia was determined to make it a game and scored the first 11 points of the second half, cutting the Americans' lead to three. The U.S. was only ahead by six before Bryant, who had struggled with his shot and foul trouble in previous games, finally broke out.

He made a 3-pointer, batted away a pass and chased it down along the left sideline. Feeling a rhythm that had been missing, Bryant pulled up and dropped another 3 that made it 70-58.

Two shots in 18 seconds was all it took.

Bryant was back.

"Somebody made him mad. I could see it in his eyes," Durant said. "I wanted him to kind of turn it on and that's what he did. That was the first time we've seen it here. He got so upset and when he does that he's in another world.

"It was just a matter of time."

Bryant laughed when told there were doubters back home.

The Aussies knew he was dead serious.

"Kobe got a little bit sniff," Patty Mills said. "And for great teams, that's all they need and they stretch it out."

Mills scored 26 points and Joe Ingles had 19 for Australia, which had the misfortune of running into the U.S. in the quarterfinals for the second straight Olympics.

By the time Bryant got done, even the Australian fans were cheering for him as he walked to the locker room, bumping fists with a Aussies' kangeroo mascot wearing boxing gloves.

This was another knockout, albeit one in the late rounds, for the Americans.

All that's between the U.S. and a gold medal now is Argentina, a dangerous team with swagger and experience, and a matchup with the Russia-Spain semifinal winner.

The Americans have tangled with the Spaniards before, beating them in the gold-medal game four years ago. A matchup with Russia would rekindle Cold Ward memories and the 1972 final in Munich, when the U.S. had its 63-game winning streak stopped amid a controversial ending still debated today.

The U.S. has shown moments of vulnerability in this tourney. Not many, but a few.

It came in as the team to beat, and through six games, that hasn't changed.

"We don't have no weaknesses," Anthony said. "None."

AP

United States' Kevin Love, left, slams a dunk as Australia's Brad Newley, right, defends during a quarterfinal men's basketball game at the 2012 Summer Olympics, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2012, in London.

Final match for US *volleyball duo ends in gold*

LONDON (AP)—For 11 years, they have been Kerri and Misty, the most recognizable faces in Olympic beach volleyball and a team that dominated the sport.

No one could beat them in the Summer Games.

And no one will get another chance.

In their final competition together, Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh Jennings beat fellow Americans Jennifer Kessy and April Ross to extend their Olympic record to 21-0 and win their third gold medal in a row. May-Treanor said she will retire from international play, perhaps to coach and definitely to spend time with her husband, Matt, a catcher for the Los Angeles Dodgers who also travels often for his job.

"This is my last match," May-Treanor said. "Beach volleyball's not going to be my career anymore. ... It's time for me to be a wife. I want to be a mom and share time with my family. All of us as athletes sacrifice more on the family end than people realize. And it's getting back to that. My mind says it's time. My body says it's time. And it's the right time."

The match started with near-by Big Ben pealing the hour and ended with the "Star-Spangled Banner" rising from the iconic venue in the Prime Minister's backyard, just down the Mall from the royal residence at Buckingham Palace. Playing on Henry VIII's former jousting tiltyard, with the current Prince Harry in the crowd, Walsh Jennings and May-Treanor continued their reign as champions of the beach.

"I'm just really proud to finish the journey with Misty how we finished it," Walsh Jennings said. "It's been 11 years of really, really fun and crazy times. She's the best there ever has been. To have been with her so long and call her a dear, dear friend and a sister now is the greatest gift ever. I'm glad she went out on top."

Dominating the sport for three Olympiads, Walsh Jennings and May-Treanor have won every match they've ever played at the Summer Games and lost just one of 43 sets.

No one had ever won even two beach volleyball gold medals before the Americans won their second straight in Beijing.

No woman had ever won three Olympic beach volleyball medals of any kind.

"I know how hard it is to win one tournament. And the amount of tournaments they've won is crazy," said Kessy, who jumped for joy on the medal podium after she and Ross won silver in their Olympic debuts. "For them to do it for years and years and to be on top is just really impressive. We learn a lot from them."

Earlier Wednesday, Brazil's Juliana and Larissa beat Xue Chen and Zhang Xi of China to win the bronze.

Brazil's Emanuel and Alison are scheduled to play Julius Brink and Jonas Reckermann of Germany in the men's gold-medal match on Thursday night. Martins Plavins and Janis Smedins of Latvia are slated to play Reinder Nummerdor and Rich Schuil of the Netherlands for the bronze.

Walsh Jennings and May-Treanor pulled away midway through the first set of the title match and were never threatened in the second, falling to their knees and hugging as Ross' serve went long on match point. Then they took the celebration to the stands, circling the stadium that was built on the 500-year-old parade grounds now used by the Queen's household cavalry.

Walsh Jennings covered her bare shoulders with an American flag and grabbed her children; the older one was a little scared. They high-fived the Horse Guards Parade Dance Team and volunteers and just about anyone holding an American flag.

And, with both teams in the final from the United States, there were a lot of them.

"It's one thing to play an Olympic final. It's another to play against a team from your county you know so well," said Walsh Jennings, who played with Kessy on a U.S. junior team.

"I think the only reason Misty and I are gold medalists is because of those two. They push us so hard. They're one of my favorite teams to beat because they're so good. They've been one of the top teams in the world since they got together. I'm just really grateful that we've had them to come up against because they've made a big difference in our career."

May-Treanor returned to the sand for a funky jig to rival the scantily clad dance team that helped bring the beach party atmosphere to the sold-out crowds in central London.

"I was like, 'I hope I'm not rubbing it in anybody's face,' but I was so excited," said May-Treanor, a competitor on "Dancing with the Stars" in 2008 before she tore her left Achilles tendon in rehearsal and missed a year on the pro tour. "I just had to get out there and let it out."

Matt Treanor watched the gold-medal match in the team's clubhouse on a balky Internet connection that made him miss the final few points.

"I'm just real proud of her," he said in the Dodger Stadium dugout. "I am sure she is much more comfortable on the court than I am watching her."

During the medal ceremony, the four Americans hugged after receiving their prizes and stood facing the two American flags raised during the national anthem. Despite both a shutout in the men's tournament, the United States matched its best finish since beach volleyball was added to the Olympics in 1996.

"I'm happy to be sitting next to another American team up here," May-Treanor said. "For both of us to be in the gold-medal match, it says a lot about our sport, a lot about the teams up here. ... I'm proud about both of us. And I'm just happy about the four of us really sharing this moment. They have no reason to hang their heads down."

Bolt goes for 2nd consecutive 200m gold

LONDON (AP)—Even when he slows to a jog, Usain Bolt is as fast as he needs to be.

His sidekick, Yohan Blake, is looking like the closest thing there is to a true challenger.

Is there anyone in the Olympic 200-meter final Thursday night who can outsprint both of the Jamaicans to win the gold?

"Yeah, man. That's why we are racing," said Wallace Spearmon of the United States. "If they weren't beatable, they would just hand them medals, and we'd race for third."

Actually, it's not outlandish to suggest the bronze is the only medal that's seemingly not destined for Bolt or Blake in the 200.

"There's a lot of people there who have come to spoil the party," Bolt said, "so we'll see."

He's trying to become the first man with two Olympic titles in the 200, part of his oft-stated goal of becoming a "living legend" in London.

As it is, Bolt already successfully defended his 100 title from the Beijing Olympics by winning that final Sunday in 9.63 seconds—the second-fastest time in history—to join Carl Lewis of the U.S. as the only men with consecutive golds in the dash.

Four years ago, he went 3 for 3, winning the 100, 200 and 4x100 relay, all in world-record time. He went on to break his marks in the two individual races at the 2009 world championships—records that still stand, 9.58 in the 100 and 19.19 in the 200.

Asked about the chances of a world record Thursday, Bolt replied: "There's a possibility, definitely. I can't say (for sure), but the track is fast. It's going to be a good race."

The other medals at stake Thursday are in the decathlon, with world record-holder Ashton Eaton of the U.S. taking a 220-point lead over teammate Trey Hardee into the last five events; the men's triple jump, where Americans Christian Taylor and Will Claye are among the favorites; the men's 800 meters; and the women's javelin.

In addition to Bolt, Blake and Spearmon, the 200 field includes Christophe Lemaitre of France, Churandy Martina of the Netherlands, Warren Weir of Jamaica, Alex Quinonez of Ecuador, Anaso Jobodwana of South Africa.

At the Beijing Games, Martina and Spearmon finished second and third to Bolt in the 200 but didn't head home with medals because they were disqualified for running out of their lanes.

AP

Jamaica's Usain Bolt, right, and Ecuador's Alex Quinonez compete in a men's 200-meter semifinal in the Olympic Stadium at the 2012 Summer Olympics, London, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2012.

Blake nearly made a big blunder in Wednesday's semifinals, easing up so much that he nearly let the hard-charging Spearmon and Lemaitre catch him at the finish line. But Blake—given the nickname "The Beast" by his pal Bolt because of the intensity of his practices—got across first in 20.01 seconds, 0.01 ahead of Spearmon and 0.02 ahead of Lemaitre.

"You know the nature of 'The Beast,'" Blake said. "I find myself out in front, and I just cruised from there."

He didn't cruise nearly as much as Bolt did in an earlier semifinal until looking to his left and seeing his lead shrinking. That's when Bolt turned the speed back up a notch for a few strides, enough to ensure he would win his heat in 20.18. Jobodwana, the man two lanes over who was gaining on Bolt, finished in 20.27.

He's been really toning down his warp-speed ability in the 200 so far, including a real comfortable trot in the opening round.

"If I just ran 9.6, I'd probably be jogging, too," Spearmon said. "He's fast, man. He's fast."

Allyson Felix always has been fast. She just hadn't been fast enough to win an individual Olympic race until Wednesday night, when she finally got the gold she'd long sought.

The runner-up in the 200 meters at the 2004 and 2008 Games, Felix overtook two-time 100 champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce down the stretch to finish in 21.88 seconds.

"It's crazy," Felix said. "I remember just (being) in tears in Beijing. Gosh, just completely opposite tonight. For all of it to come together is just extremely special and I'm overjoyed."

Carmelita Jeter of the U.S. won the bronze, and Veronica Campbell-Brown of Jamaica—the woman who beat Felix in the finals at Athens and Beijing—was fourth.

"She's been trying very hard for this moment," said Jeter, who became the first U.S. woman to medal in both sprints since Florence Griffith-Joyner in 1988. "When I gave her a hug, that's exactly what I told her: 'You've waited for this moment.'"

It was part of a seven-medal showing for the United States on Wednesday. Aries Merritt and Jason Richardson finished 1-2 in the 110-meter hurdles; Brittney Reese took the gold and Janay DeLoach added a bronze in the long jump; and Lashinda Demus was the silver medalist in the 400-meter hurdles.

The U.S. heads into the last four days of the Olympics with 20 medals in track and field, 10 short of its "Project 30" goal for the London Games.

"We are always aware of what the medal count is," Richardson said. "I know (we) can ... let the world know the Americans are the best track and field country."

3 CNMI

From Page 32

absorbed her second straight loss in the tournament against teammate Lopez in the afternoon game. Ackerman was scheduled to have a rematch against Tapusoa for the No. 3 spot in the 11-player field.

Lopez and Rastguiy were also set to duel for the girls U15 crown yesterday and results of the all-CNMI finale were unavailable at press time.

In the girls U12 singles, Heras ousted fellow Commonwealth player Carol Lee to move into the finals. Heras took the opening set with a hard-earned 7-6 (6) win, but failed to close the match early when Lee recovered in the second set with a 6-2 victory. In the deciding third set, Lee ran out of gas, allowing Heras to cruise to a 6-1 triumph.

Heras was set to battle Fiji's Ruby Coffin for the girls U12 tiara. Coffin claimed the other finals berth after ousting Vanuatu's Emma Maucotel in the other Final Four pairing, 6-3, 6-2. Heras and Lee had an early semis collision after placing second and first in their respective pools. Heras dropped to No. 2 in Pool A after losing her final pool game against Coffin last Wednesday morning, 6-4, 5-7, 4-6. Lee had a perfect 5-0 record in Pool B, completing the elimination round sweep with a tough 0-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2) victory over Maucotel last Wednesday.

Meanwhile, six other CNMI bets in the POJC missed the Final Four round.

Luther Lizama fell one step short of advancing to the semis after finishing only third in Pool B of the boys U12 singles. Lizama had a 2-2 record in the elimination, missing the cut after bowing to Samoa's Harley Cronin (3-1) last Wednesday, 2-6, 1-6.

Lizama then won over the Cook Islands' Elijah Amataiti in the consolation draw, 6-2, 7-6 (5) and was squaring off againts Vanuatu's Julien Pineda for the No. 5 spot in the 10-player draw.

In the boys U18 division, Rafael Jones and Christian Miller were also just one notch away from barging into the semifinal round. Jones earned a 3-2 record in Pool A, losing the last semis berth to New Caledonia's Nicholas Lesturgie, who escaped with a crucial 7-6 (4), 6-1 win over the CNMI bet in the pool play last Wednesday.

Miller was in Pool B and placed third behind semifinalists Heve Kelley of New Caledonia and James Elliot after posting an even 2-2 card. Miller missed the semis bus when he fell to Kelley in his final pool game last Wednesday, 1-6, 4-6.

Both Miller and Jones dropped to the consolation game for the fifth to eighth place in the 11-player field with the former boosting his chance to finish at No. 5, following a 6-3, 6-2 win over Guam's Christian Penafiel. Jones lost his consolation game against the Cook Islands' Tamarua Payne, 4-6, 6-2, 4-6.

In the girls U18, Thea Minor moved out of slump after a 6-2, 6-3 victory over the Cook Islands' Lillian Maui. Minor had a 0-4 record in the first two days of competition in Fiji before ending her skid last Wednesday. However, her 1-4 record is only good for a tie for sixth place in the eight-player draw. The girls U18 singles has a round-robin format with the top finisher after seven games getting the championship, which is a toss between Fiji's Tarani Kamoe (6-0) and Papu New Guinea's Marcia Tere-Apisah (6-0).

JUNIOR

From Page 32

mer Rivera, over for a training camp a couple years ago and thought Ramirez would also benefit by working with the Trench Tech family.

"This is an awesome experience for me because being here somewhat out of my comfort zone has made me focus solely on my training and I have been getting a lot of work done since my arrival. I really appreciate all of the hospitality that I have received from everyone and have made a lot of friendships. The Trench Tech family welcomed me with open arms and I am very thankful for all the support," said Ramirez in an interview last Monday

Being from a desert, naturally Ramirez enjoyed spending time at the beach for some swimming. He also tried an array of different Asian-style cuisine, which is different from all of the fast food and Mexican food that he is accustomed to back home.

Though training is still his main focus, he plans on getting in some hard earned R&R before his departure such as a trip to Managaha.

In addition to boxing, Ramirez is also a talented long distance runner. As part of his training, he has also been taking part in some local running events. Since essentially showing up out of nowhere, Ramirez won the Silver Streak Fun Run and then took the torch in Hyatt Run For A Cause and won another fundraiser fun run for a local fire station.

Back home in Mesquite, Ramirez is a professional marathoner and participates in about three events every year. He also won the 3A-Cross Country Regional event during his senior year of high school.

"I love running, which is good because it's an important part of my conditioning routine, but ever since I was a little kid I have always wanted to be a boxer. Ten years ago, I told myself that I want to be a world champ and to this day, I still have my eye on the prize," he said.

Ramirez credits his father for always supporting his athletic aspirations.

Meanwhile, AOW7 is being organized by Trench Tech Purebred Promotions and will be held this Saturday from 10am to 4pm in Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Admission costs $5 and only $10 per competitor, per division.

So far, a total of about 40 participants have already signed up in seven weight classes and slots are still available.

Guam fighters are also expected to appear in the show and challenge defending heavyweight gold medalist Mylo Lassiter, lightweight gold winner Shane "Pika-Boo" Alvarez, Mark "The Dark" Nuique, and "The Flying Cockroach" himself, Cuki Alvarez.

Marianas Elite's Kelvin Fital, Vince Pua and Maitai Charley, and Team Haga's Jordan "The Jungle Boy" Ogo of Tinian are also expected to suit up, while veteran Giovanni "Palaksi" Sablan is expected to return to the mat.

The weight classes include flyweight (100-125lbs), bantamweight (126-135lbs), featherweight (136-145lbs), lightweight (146-155lbs), welterweight (156-175lbs), middleweight (176-204lbs) and heavyweight (205lbs and up).

REDEMPTION

From Page 32

last year's World Cup final meet again at Wembley Stadium, with organizers expecting the largest crowd ever to watch women play the sport at a Summer Games.

For the players, of course, the result does matter. The Japanese are attempting become the first team to win World Cup and Olympic titles in back-to-back years. The Americans are bent on mending the heartache from a penalty kick shootout in Frankfurt 13 months ago.

"I've been hoping for this final," U.S. forward Abby Wambach said, "from the moment I stepped off the podium in Germany."

Few are more passionate about the need to scratch the World Cup itch than Wambach, who earlier this week gave an impassioned monologue that recapped the "nightmares" from last year's game - and all that has happened since.

"Every single player on this team, whether they're even here or not, even players that are left back in the United States, they've given us all an opportunity to train, to work, to dedicate, to sacrifice, every single day since the World Cup, so that we can have this one chance, the one more chance, the 90 more minutes," Wambach said.

"All of us have dreamt about it. We've had nightmares about it even, what happened last summer. This is an opportunity for us for not even redemption, but to prove ourselves, to let whatever happened last summer go - and be in a position to go after and take the gold medal because we believe that we've earned it. It's going to take 90 minutes of a great performance of the best team in the world, and that's going to be the team that's going to be sitting on the top podium."

Despite the second-place finish at the World Cup, the Americans came home to a hero's welcome last year, with fans enthralled by the come-from-behind cliffhangers and the engaging personalities. The kudos were nice, but coach and players were bummed out. Coach Pia Sundhage went home to Sweden and tuned out soccer completely for a while. Goalkeeper Hope Solo went on "Dancing With the Stars."

The passage of time helped a little. Winning the gold would do so much more.

The Americans are still ranked No. 1 in the world and are the two-time defending Olympic champions. They have the deepest, most talented team in the tournament. By contrast, Japan's World Cup triumph was stunning, and it provided psychological salve for a nation recovering from a triple tragedy of earthquake, tsunami and nuclear meltdown.

But Japan was worthy of the title, playing disciplined, tactical and savvy soccer. The savviness returned at the Olympics, when coach Norio Sasaki told his players to deliberately try not to score during a game against South Africa because a victory would have required extra travel. It's a tactic Sundhage said she would never try.

If Thursday's news conferences are any indication, Japan is the more relaxed team headed into the rematch. Sasaki and his players smiled and cracked jokes throughout. Through a translator, the coach introduced goalkeeper Miho Fukumoto as a "goddess." When asked to explain, he laughed and realized the word lost something from Japanese to English because he was trying to make a pun.

Sasaki acknowledged the Americans perhaps "have a greater incentive" to win after last year's result, so he said his challenge is to see "how much stronger we can make our incentive to have a win and beat the United States."

Here's a possible incentive: Maybe his players will get better seats on the plane ride home if they get the gold. The Japanese delegation was heavily criticized for putting the world champion women in economy while the men's soccer team —made up of younger, less accomplished players - flew business class on the way to London. Midfielder Homare Sawa said at the time that it "should have been the other way around."

Team captain Aya Miyama laughed off the subject Thursday, saying: "We're pretty small, so it doesn't matter." But then she added: "When I think about a more expensive cabin, it makes me feel good."

The Americans revived their flair for the dramatic on Monday with a last-minute win over Canada in the semifinals, and few would be surprised if the gold medal game is just as close—perhaps ending with penalty kicks once again. Sundhage said she learned a lesson from last year: The team that scores the final goal to force the penalty kicks is usually happier and more loose, something she didn't realize until she saw her more tense players fall flat in the shootout.

This time, she said she will step into the huddle and make sure the players' heads are in the right place.

"I will give them a big smile," she said, "and make sure that they enjoy the moment."

SHIRLEY'S

From Page 32

in the first half.

MEN'S
Shirley's 8, Go Green Team 6

Shirley's was also victorious in the men's division after slipping past Go Green Team.

Shirley's gained only its second win in seven games, while Go Green finished the double-round robin contest with a field's worst record of 1-0-7.

The bottom two squads in the five-team group were in a deadlock, 3-all, after the first half of play. Jack Phan, Marc Mora and Ruselle Zapanta scored one goal apiece for Shirley's, while Go Green also drew one goal each from Mark King, Lee Epperson, and Raphael Zapanta.

In the second half, Phan completed a hat-trick after firing two more goals to lift Shirley's to the victory. Ariel Jinang, Kris Kim, and Ruselle Zapanta also contributed to Shirley's cause in the final frame.

Go Green made only three goals in the second half, courtesy of Timothy Tawanpiy, Makani Gramlich, and Kenneth Domingo.

BOYS U18
Astig 8, Thundercats 7

Astig Futsal moved two wins away from sweeping the three-round robin boys U18 after edging the Thundercats.

Tanapon Unsa had a hat-trick in the second half and finished with five goals to keep Astig Futsal's perfect record in seven games. His two goals in the first half and one each from Konkoed and Woo Seok Choi gave Astig Futsal a commanding 4-1 lead.

Tawanpiy logged the Thundercats' lone goal in the first half and he teamed up with Juanito Tiamzon in the second to threaten Astig. Makani Gramlich and Zhi Pheng Lin chipped in one goal each to boost the Thundercats' attempt to hand Astig its first loss, but Unsa's three goals and Konkoed's one save the day for the virtual champion.

BOYS U14
IT&E 9, Astig Futsal 0

In the boys U14, IT&E recorded its fourth win over Astig Futsal.

IT&E's John Taisacan was unstoppable on offense in the second half, firing all but one of his team's goals. Greg Sablan logged the other goal for IT&E.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

LONDON OLYMPICS MEDAL TALLY

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	United States	34	22	25	81
2	China	36	22	19	77
3	Russia	11	19	23	53
4	Great Britain	22	13	13	48
5	Germany	9	15	10	34
6	Japan	4	13	14	31
7	France	8	9	11	28
8	Australia	6	12	9	27
9	South Korea	12	7	6	25
10	Italy	7	6	4	17
11	Netherlands	5	4	6	15
12	Hungary	7	4	3	14
13	Canada	1	4	9	14
14	Belarus	3	3	4	10
15	New Zealand	3	2	5	10
16	Ukraine	3	1	6	10
17	Brazil	2	1	7	10
18	Spain	2	6	1	9
19	Romania	2	5	2	9
20	Denmark	2	4	3	9
21	Poland	2	1	6	9
22	Kazakhstan	6	0	2	8
23	Iran	4	3	1	8
24	Cuba	3	3	1	7
25	Czech Republic	1	3	3	7
25	Sweden	1	3	3	7
27	Jamaica	2	2	2	6
28	North Korea	4	0	1	5
29	South Africa	3	1	1	5
30	Kenya	1	2	2	5
31	Colombia	0	3	2	5
31	Mexico	0	3	2	5
33	Croatia	2	1	1	4
34	Ethiopia	2	0	2	4
35	Slovenia	1	1	2	4
36	Azerbaijan	0	2	2	4
37	India	0	1	3	4
37	Slovakia	0	1	3	4
39	Switzerland	2	1	0	3
40	Georgia	1	1	1	3
40	Norway	1	1	1	3
42	Armenia	0	1	2	3
42	Belgium	0	1	2	3
42	Mongolia	0	1	2	3
45	Dominican Republic	1	1	0	2
46	Lithuania	1	0	1	2
47	Egypt	0	2	0	2
48	Estonia	0	1	1	2
48	Indonesia	0	1	1	2
48	Serbia	0	1	1	2
48	Thailand	0	1	1	2
48	Tunisia	0	1	1	2
53	Greece	0	0	2	2
53	Qatar	0	0	2	2
53	Moldova	0	0	2	2
53	Singapore	0	0	2	2
57	Algeria	1	0	0	1
57	Grenada	1	0	0	1
57	Venezuela	1	0	0	1
60	Taiwan	0	1	0	1
60	Cyprus	0	1	0	1
60	Finland	0	1	0	1
60	Guatemala	0	1	0	1
60	Malaysia	0	1	0	1
60	Portugal	0	1	0	1
66	Argentina	0	0	1	1
66	Hong Kong	0	0	1	1
66	Ireland	0	0	1	1
66	Kuwait	0	0	1	1
66	Morocco	0	0	1	1
66	Puerto Rico	0	0	1	1
66	Saudi Arabia	0	0	1	1
66	Tajikistan	0	0	1	1
66	Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	1	1
66	Turkey	0	0	1	1
66	Uzbekistan	0	0	1	1

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division				
New York	64	46	.582	–
Baltimore	60	51	.541	4 1/2
Tampa Bay	58	52	.527	6
Boston	55	57	.491	10
Toronto	53	57	.482	11
Central Division				
Chicago	60	50	.545	–
Detroit	60	51	.541	1/2
Cleveland	51	60	.459	9 1/2
Minnesota	49	62	.441	11 1/2
Kansas City	47	63	.427	13
West Division				
Texas	65	45	.591	–
Oakland	60	51	.541	5 1/2
Los Angeles	59	53	.527	7
Seattle	51	62	.451	15 ½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division				
Washington	68	43	.613	–
Atlanta	64	47	.577	4
New York	53	58	.477	15
Miami 51	60	.459	17	
Philadelphia	50	61	.450	18
Central Division				
Cincinnati	66	45	.595	–
Pittsburgh	63	47	.573	2½
St. Louis	60	51	.541	6
Milwaukee	51	59	.464	14½
Chicago	43	66	.394	22
Houston	36	76	.321	30½
West Division				
San Francisco	61	50	.550	–
Los Angeles	60	52	.536	1½
Arizona	56	55	.505	5
San Diego	49	64	.434	13
Colorado	40	69	.367	20

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cabrera wins pitching race; Reyes rules batting battle

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Cabrera

Reyes

The St. Michael's Medical Response Angels' Manny Cabrera and John Reyes hung tough to top the pitching and batting races in the 2012 Saipan Major League.

Cabrera maintained a 0.40 Earned Run Average for three strong wins this year. He pitched 22.2 innings and only one of 13 runs scored on his watch was credited as earned.

Honorable mention goes out to Saipan Stevedore Yankees lefty Joshua Jones, who pitched three complete games (29IP) and dialed up 62 strikeouts at the start of the season before heading off to the mainland to play collegiate ball two months ago.

Tan Holdings Brewers' hurler Vince Cepeda and IT&E-Shell Fielders' Elton Santos tried their best to surpass Jones' mark, but the crown remained with the latter, as Cepeda finished with 58 and Santos retired 45.

Jones' 0.62 ERA earned him runner-up honors in the category, ahead of the Brewers' Thomas Camacho (0.81), Cepeda (0.84), Aces' Benwachi Taisacan (1.90), Angels' Franco Flores (2.25), Aces' Juan Iguel (2.34), and Angels' Thomas Joab (3.00).

In hitting, Reyes cracked 20 hits in 39 at bats for a 0.513 batting average. He chalked up 16 runs and 3 doubles and was the only player with at least 34 at bats to break 0.500.

IT&E-Shell's Anthony Tenorio (0.488) and Brewers' Byron Kaipat (4.86) came the closest to besting Reyes' effort, but fell just short. Tenorio swung 21-for-43 and earned a share in runs scored, triples, and doubles in the process. Tenorio and Yankees' Ben Jones Jr. scored 18 runs apiece this year and hit three triples, both league highs, and the former's five doubles tied Brewers' Roy Celis.

Kaipat went 18-for-37 and is the RBI champion, as his 16 RBIs stood tall over teammate Manny Sablan (12), Yankees' Chris Camacho (12), Aces' Nokki Saralu (11), and fellow Brewer Mike Pangelinan (10).

There were three home run kings this year, as Yankees' Tom Agulto and Jerome Delos Santos and IT&E-Shell's Brandon Santos all sent a ball over the fence.

Winners in the statistical race in the SML league were based on the players performance in the double-round robin regular season at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Water Front, IT&E Voyagers hold lead in SBA league

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Water Front's Eight It! and SOS Bar & Grill's IT&E Voyagers took the lead in the Thursday and Tuesday divisions after last week's matches in the Saipan Billiards Association 2012 Budweiser Open 8-Ball League.

In SBA's Thursday division match last August 2, Waterfront Front's Eight It! went into Bammy's Restaurant & Bar and neutralized the Equalizers (14-16), 10-5, to gain first place with its 21-9 record.

In other results, 19th Hole Bar's Titans II (19-11) soared past sister team Eagles (9-21), 10-5, in a home draw to secure the second position, while Wild Bill's Bar & Grill's Shark Attack (14-16) defeated Team SCS (13-17), 8-7, in a road match held at Jonny's Bar & Grill.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Players of Water Front's Eight It! pose for a group photo during a break in their game against the Bammy's Restaurant & Bar Equalizers in the Thursday division of the SBA 8-ball league last week.

In the Tuesday division, the two-time defending champion IT&E Voyagers squished Yuichiros Printing (17-21), 10-5, at home to improve their card to 29-16 and move all alone into first place.

Some close games resulted in four teams getting a share of second place. Utopia Sports Bar's Blue Ice Hustlers, Oceanside Bar & Grill's IT&E Incredibles, Joe's Steakhouse's Docomo Pacific Home Boyz and Bammy's Triggers hold identical 26-19 slates.

The Blue Ice Hustlers bested the IT&E Incredibles, 8-7, at home; the Docomo Home Boyz lit up 19th Hole's Titans I (9-36), 13-2, at home; and Poseidon Bar & Grill's Crazy 8 (21-24) upset the Triggers, 8-7, also in a home match.

Next Tuesday's match will have Crazy 8 hosting the Docomo Home Boyz; the IT&E Incredibles waving in the IT&E Voyagers; the Titans I welcoming the Blue Ice Hustlers; and the Triggers calling over Yuichiros Printing.

The upcoming Thursday league pairings will have the Titans II hailing the Equalizers; Shark Attack setting the table for Eight It!; and Team SCS hosting the Eagles.

NUTESE bike race this Sunday

The NUTESE Fundraising Bike Race will hit the road this Sunday with the island's riders competing both in MTB and road bike divisions.

The MTB category is divided into two courses with the long one allowing bikers to pedal through FEBC, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, Grotto, and Banzai Cliff before returning to the start/finish line at Marianas Resort. The short MTB course will cover FEBC, Bird Island, Grotto, and Banzai Cliff before bikers head back to Marianas Resort.

In the road bike division, participants will leave Marianas Resort and go to Banzai Cliff, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, Grotto and back to Banzai Cliff before returning to the starting point.

Registration will run from 5:30 to 7pm and the race will begin at 7:15am. Prizes will be given to the top finishers in each age group, while a new mountain bike will be raffled off. Each raffle ticket costs only $1.

The weekend race is a fundraising event with proceeds going to the projects of NUTESE, which stands for Nurturing Transformative & Sustainable Communities. According to race organizers, NUTESE is a non-profit organization with a mission is to advance the anti-violence movement through community organizing, leadership development, education and research, networking, dialogue, and engagement.

"Our work in the CNMI focuses on creating a violence-free, innovative, and sustainable community, and our major activities include organizing volunteers and train them to provide advocacy services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault at our ethnically and culturally diverse communities. At the international level, we have reached out for support and broaden network with our partners in Asian Pacific Regions and North America and we are now a joint partner with the Kyoto Women's University in Japan and other NGOs in global research on migrant workers' rights and services," race organizers stated in an email sent to members of the bikers community. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Dartaholiks, Triple Threat share top spot

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

SOS Bar & Grill's Dartaholiks and Oceanside's Triple Threat grabbed a share of the top spot in the Tuesday B division of the Bud Light Summer/Fall 2012 Dart League after this week's matches.

Triple Threat recorded a booming 14-1 victory over sister team Wreckless Precision (3-27), giving the former a 22-8 mark, the same slate Dartaholiks has, following a 9-6 home win over Oceanside's Good Guys (11-19).

In other results, Naked Fish's Na'Gupu II (21-9) crushed the Waterfront's K-1 Scorpions (6-24), 11-4, on road and reside just one game back in second place, while VFW's Delubyo (20-10) remains close behind at third despite absorbing a 7-8 loss at home to SOS's 80 Proofers (15-15).

Notables included a 140 high-in by Triple Threat's Clifford Hamoy and a 100 high-out by Hamoy's teammate, George Medina.

Meanwhile, Oceanside Bar & Grill's Mafia claimed the lead in the A division, while Bammy's Restaurant & Bar's Momes'l Mei is ahead in the Ladies category.

Mafia romped SOS Bar & Grill's Outlawz (4-13), 13-4, at home last Monday and hold a four-game lead in the standings with its 25-9 record.

Mafia's sister squad, Bud Brothers (21-13), went into Bammy's and trampled Sabalu (16-18), 12-5, to move into second place, while SOS's Mixblood Shooters (14-20) stunned big brother 101 Proofers (16-18), 9-8, in a road draw. Sand's Bar's Juvy Predators (6-11) were on a bye this week.

Notables included a high-in 122 by Bud Brothers' Eric Pascual and a 131 high-out by 101 Proofers' Rolly Bermiso.

Also last Monday, Momes'l Mei routed Joe's Steakhouse's Daffodils (7-23), 13-2, at home to improve to a 25-5 slate and hold a four-game lead over two-time champion Jonny's Bar & Grill's Try Luck (21-9).

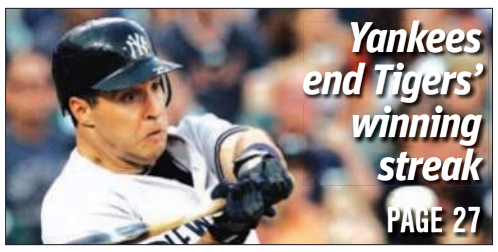
Try Luck was victorious on the road, beating Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Man-Amigas (15-15), 10-5, while Es'y Kitchen's B-52 Shooters (20-10) had a relieving 9-6 win over Joe's Like That (10-20) for a solid third place seating.

In other results, SOS's Wonder Women (11-19) pulled off an 8-7 upset over Oceanside's G-Side (11-19) at home.

A 152 high-in by Try Luck's Rita Fitial highlighted this week's Ladies action.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of SOS Wonder Women pose for a photo before their 8-7 upset win over Oceanside's G-Side in the Ladies division of the SEDA league last Monday.

TSL SPORTS COMPLEX
Activity Schedule for August 10, 2012
2012 Summer Soccer Camp
8:00 AM to 9:30 AM: U10 • 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM: U8
SAIPAN SOCCER SCHOOL
2012 Summer Futsal League
6:30 PM: U18 Boy's Division IT&E vs. Mean Machine
7:30 PM: Women Baked Girls vs. IT&E Awesome
8:30 PM: Men Shirley's vs. IT&E



Saipan Tribune
Sports

3 CNMI players march into POJC finals

Rastguiy

Heras

Lopez

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior tennis players Mikayla Lopez, Negahr Rastguiy, and Isabel Heras barged into the finals of the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

Lopez and Rastguiy arranged an all-CNMI finals in the girls U15 singles after eliminating separate foes in the semifinals last Wednesday at the Dr. Robin Mitchell Regional Tennis Centre in Lautoka, Fiji.

Rastguiy advanced to the finals after sweeping Samoa's Anastasia Tapusoa in the semis, 6-3, 6-4, while Lopez prevailed in the other Final Four pairing against fellow CNMI player and last year's U12 champion Tammy Ackerman, 6-1, 6-2.

Rastguiy made it to the semis after finishing second in Pool A. She ended the round-robin pool play with a 3-1 record, absorbing her lone loss at the hands of Lopez last Wednesday morning, 2-6, 2-6.

Ackerman also had a 3-1 record in pool play, placing second to Tapusoa in Pool A. The 12-year-old CNMI bet dropped her last pool match against Tapusoa, 2-6, 0-6, last Wednesday morning and

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Junior Olympian looking for foe in Art of War

BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Nineteen-year-old boxer Daniel Ramirez of Mesquite Nevada is hoping to display his skills during an intermission in the Art Of War 7 No-Gi Grappling and Submissions Challenge this Saturday.

Ramirez has been training at the Trench Tech Gym on the seventh floor of the Marianas Business Plaza since early July and is looking for a worthy opponent in the weekend event. He will complete the last month of his training before returning home on Sept. 5. When he gets home, Ramirez plans to get his professional boxing career rolling.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Daniel Ramirez, left, undergoes a sparring session Monday night at the Trench Tech Purebred Gym in Susupe.

Ramirez is a former two-time Golden Gloves champion in the 152lb division, which is his walking weight, and wants to drop down to the 141lb division upon his transition to the pro-level.

Ramirez has also won multiple junior Golden Gloves events and even represented the USA in the Junior Olympics, where at 14 he made it to the finals in the U16 division.

He has been boxing under the watchful eye of veteran coach Don Rawson since he was nine years old.

Notably, Rawson has offered his expertise in the sport on Saipan for many years.

Rawson brought another one of his fighters, heavyweight El-

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Redemption rematch: US women's team vs Japan

By JOSEPH WHITE
AP SPORTS WRITER

LONDON (AP)—A day before the Olympic gold medal game, players and coaches from the U.S. and Japanese women's soccer teams stood in front of reporters side-by-side, like buddies on the same squad, arms linked around each other's waists. The white warmup jackets of the United States alternated with the blue ones from Japan.

All that cordiality? It ends at kickoff.

"They snatched our dream last year," U.S. midfielder Megan Rapinoe said. "And still we have that respect for them."

No matter the result Thursday, the Olympic women's soccer tournament couldn't ask for a better finale. The teams from

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AP
Japan's midfielder Homare Sawa, left, and USA's midfielder Carli Lloyd fight for the ball during the FIFA Women's Football World Cup final match on July 17, 2011, in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

Shirley's zeroes in on women's crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shirley's Coffee Shop boosted its chances for the women's division title in the 2012 Saipan Soccer School Summer Futsal League after shutting out rival Wild Bill's, 3-0, last Wednesday night at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

The victory in its second to the last game in the double-round robin tournament gave Shirley's a 6-2-1 win-draw-loss record and it needs only a draw in its game against Xerox tomorrow to secure the women's crown.

Wild Bill's completed the competition with a 6-2-2 card and still has a chance for the championship provided Shirley's drop its final game this weekend. A Shirley's loss will give Wild Bill's and the latter 20 points each (from 6 matches won and 2 draws) and the tie will be resolved by goals difference (goals made minus goals given up). Wild Bill's collected 34 goals and gave up 13. Shirley's has earned 36 goals and has allowed more than Wild Bill's with 19.

Shirley's notched the crucial win over Wild Bill's after drawing all three goals from Irish Pagarao, who made the hat-trick

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